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Thoughts for the New Year

Now that Ho-Ho-Hos are over
 Now realities appear
 Here are some hopes for our Community
 Throughout the coming year:

- A cure for AIDS — That we be spared the pain of loss — of lives ended too soon — of dreams unrealized;
- A truly kinder, gentler community — one which is committed to social justice for all people;
- Enlightenment — in our community — that we deal with our own issues — our sick, our oppressed, our children in innovative, responsible ways;
- Growth — That we continue to grow emotionally, mentally, and spiritually in spite of an oppressive society — and that we continue to lead THEM to the lessons of care and compassion which they sorely lack;
- Prosperity — Which will enable us to generously fund our institutions so that our physical and political safety can be assured;
- Energy — To fight the fight — to keep on keepin' on;
- Equality for all people — that women and men of all colors, creeds find the common ground and common interests for survival;
- Peace — Private and universal;
- Love — And none in our community needs any interpretation on this one — in all its many aspects;
- And to paraphrase like the Dickens ... "God-dess/God Bless Us Every One ..." ■

M.R. Richards

The Truth Can Set Us Free

by Chuck Forester
 OF MGW STAFF

Ann Landers doesn't usually tell her readers off. That's why it came as a surprise to see the two recent columns where she came down firmly against readers who attacked the idea of gay marriages. One subtle writer from Wisconsin had put the case for bigotry rather bluntly: "Those faggots should go back in the closet where they belong." Ann's response was right on target, stating her shock at the "viciousness and intolerance" of those opposed to legitimizing gay relationships.

Mixed in with the anti-gay sentiments Ann printed were letters of support, many from heterosexuals who knew a gay man or lesbian. One father wrote that he had two sons, one straight and one gay. Both deserved the same rights, he said. His response should not have surprised me, because it only confirmed a point that pollsters discovered some time ago: Support for gay rights is greatest among those who know a gay person.

Unfortunately, most heterosexuals know only what they learn from the mass media. Twenty years ago, Stonewall was but a blip on the media's radar screen. Ten years later lesbian/gay stories were beginning to appear. Today the power of gay politics and the AIDS

epidemic have put us on the front page of every major daily in America and the evening news. Despite the attention, to most Americans, gays and lesbians remain an unknown quantity; we're an abstract entity, not people with hopes, dreams and lives.

Until we tell the public who we are they have little to go on. For example, their images of gay men are often limited to the Religious Right's slanderous view of us as sexual perverts, the popular media's vision of a misunderstood boy next door dying of AIDS, and the traditional stereotypes of the mincing hairdresser and the lesbian mechanic. With the exception of a few accurate depictions of gay diversity seen on little watched P.B.S. documentaries, the majority of heterosexuals have little else.

One reason why Barney Frank's recent problems generated such interest in the mainstream press is because he is a living, breathing homosexual who is willing to talk about his personal life. Of course, some of the media used his story to bash gays, but many publications — including *Newsweek* — used Barney to teach readers a great deal about the pressures of being gay in a homophobic society. Barney has shared a very real-life story with Americans. He has been honest about it, and that's news because people want to know about us.

While few of us will have the impact of a Barney Frank, all of

Draft Contains Provisions of Interest to Gay Community

by Alan Lofaso
 OF MGW STAFF

The Ad hoc Charter Commission appointed by the city council and the board of supervisors to draft a plan for a merged city-county government made a major step toward completing its mission on December 12. At its Tuesday meeting, the commission moved to send its second draft charter to the council and the board for review. Both bodies will meet in joint hearing at 2:00 p.m. on January 10, in the board chambers at 700 H Street to review the document.

In response to community input, the second draft contains many new provisions that are of interest to the local lesbian/gay community and other minority communities. Several provisions were recommended by the City/County Human Rights/Fair Housing Commission; they are:

- Non-discrimination provisions in city hiring which previously contained references to sex, race, religion, national origin, and political affiliation have been revised to include mental and physical disabilities and sexual orientation.

- The revised draft expresses the intent of the new government to continue the Minority Business Enterprise/Women's Business Enterprise (MBE/WBE) programs currently in effect in both the city and the county.

- The position of an Affirmative Action Officer to be

responsible for administration and of AA programs would be appointed by the mayor with the consent of the council of supervisors under the revised plan.

- A provision has been adopted that would require a two-thirds vote of the council (eight out of 11) to repeal any human rights ordinance. As drafted, such ordinances would be in effect in the parts of the city/county from where they originated. Human Rights ordinances could be expanded throughout the city/county by a simple majority vote. Human Rights ordinances specifically include the Gay Rights Ordinance, the AIDS anti-discrimination Ordinance, the ban on discrimination by not distinctly private clubs, the ban against South African businesses utilizing city facilities, the ban on investment of city funds in companies doing business in South Africa, the MBE/WBE Ordinance, the Sanctuary Resolutions and the county ordinance that enforces handicap parking compliance.

The Human Rights/Fair Housing Commission also requested several provisions to resolve substantive differences in Affirmative Action programs between the city and the county and a provision that the 20 Local Community Councils be held to the Fair Share Plan which requires equitable distribution of low-income housing. The charter commission voted not to include these provisions, deeming them administrative matters that

should be dealt with by the new government.

The movement toward merger of the city and county governments has been generated by a desire to promote more rational regional planning and to maximize efficiency of limited public funds in providing for public services. Several drafts of the charter have been criticized by environmental advocates, minority communities, and citizens concerned about losing local control to a large, distant government.

Local attorney Rosemary Metrailler, a member of the Human Rights/Fair Housing Commission has been a leader in promoting the recent amendments to the proposed charter. "I want to support consolidation better utilize decreasing public resources to serve increasing public needs, and I think the current draft preserves the most important protections won by lesbians and gay men in recent years." But, added Metrailler, "There is so much that still needs to be done to ensure that the structure of the new government preserves the progress that the lesbian and gay community has made."

After review of the charter by the city council and the board of supervisors, the charter commission will resume hearings to produce a final document to be submitted to the voters for approval in either June or November of 1990. ■

the better place that all of us want to leave for the next generation of lesbians and gay men. ■

Chuck Forester is the founder and president of Quarles Associates, a management and public policy consulting firm in San Francisco. He serves as co-chair of the Board of the Human Rights Campaign.

Special Thanks

Editor:

On behalf of the Board of Directors and Team Sacramento, I would like to thank Bobbette and the Mercantile and its staff, for the many tacos that have been sold on behalf of SAGA III and our athletes. Also the November 5th Team Sacramento/Dragoons softball game proved to be a huge success and hope to see a few more such affairs. Many thanks to Bobbette and the Court for their support.

Norm Frohwein
 President
 Team Sacramento/SAGA III

Some may resist, but most people who know you want to hear your story. We can make the world we share with others a little less tense and a lot more honest by telling the stories of our lives. It is an important part of building

Editorial — Look Up For the 90s

As the 80s wind down we need to look back upon our political accomplishments during this very turbulent decade, and look forward to that which still needs our attention.

AIDS derailed the gay and lesbian community's string of political successes during the early 80s. Remember San Francisco in the "old days"? Remember the delegation that met with President Carter? Assembly Bill 1 by Art Agnos was the focal point of our political program in California at that time. That legislation would have made discrimination based on sexual orientation illegal under state law. Many cities and counties now contain such protections, as do many private companies, but many do not.

Lackluster Governor Deukmejian has routinely vetoed AB 1 and its successors. His excuse is that such protections are not necessary. (He himself has fired staff that were found out to be gay.) President Reagan lived up to the reputation of his hero, Calvin Coolidge, who is best known as the president who attacked organized labor and took the longest naps in the White House of any president in history.

The full force of our growing political power had to be diverted to fight repressive measures which sought to use the AIDS crisis to scare the public and persecute us. We were successful at defeating the likes of political fringe crazies like Lyndon LaRouche, Bill Dannemeyer, and John Doolittle — but at great cost.

By the mid 1980s our financial base was drained. Our leaders were burned out or hit directly by the health crisis. We went through a period of depression.

Then out of this despair a new resolve arose out of this community. It was "now or never" time to get involved, to stand up, and to fight. We established a statewide lobby (LIFE) to promote our interests in the Legislature and to be our voice during the debate on AIDS. Hundreds of thousands of us flew to Washington D.C. from all over the country to demand that our federal government get off its ass and use the country's resources to

find an end to this devastating virus. It became the largest civil rights march ever. Those of us who were lucky enough to be there will never forget the feeling of purpose and power.

A conservative president and governor, combined with the devastation of the virus itself, combined during the decade to mobilize us as never before. After the sorrow of seeing our friends and loved ones taken from us came the anger and the question: "Why?" We were fed up and not going to take it anymore.

Reagan is gone now and seemingly content peddling products in Japan while Nancy peddles yet another shallow biography. George Bush is a more promisingly moderate president and certainly a more intelligent man. Governor Gridlock is finally on his way out and considered a dinosaur even within his own party. Many Republican candidates, in fact, now openly court the support of our community. Gay Republicans are organized and effective. We continue to move up to positions of power within the Democratic party.

What then for the 90s? Much of our dreams for the 80s remain unfulfilled. AIDS will be with us for at least the short-term. For now, though, the political debate around AIDS has shifted away from moralistic arguments to medical and fiscal realities.

Can our proactive agenda, sidetracked in the early 80s, forge on ahead now? Yes. We're stronger than ever and much more grown up. Sacramento is at the forefront of that tidal wave of change. We will get laws passed which are needed to protect us from discrimination. We will get legal recognition and benefits for the love between two men or two women. We continue to have the highest per capita disposable income of any group in society and so influence the business community. A move is about to mount a massive public relations campaign to inform the American public that we are their friends, their sons and daughters, and their neighbors. We are everywhere. And now we are about to take what is rightfully ours. ■

— Mike Varacalli

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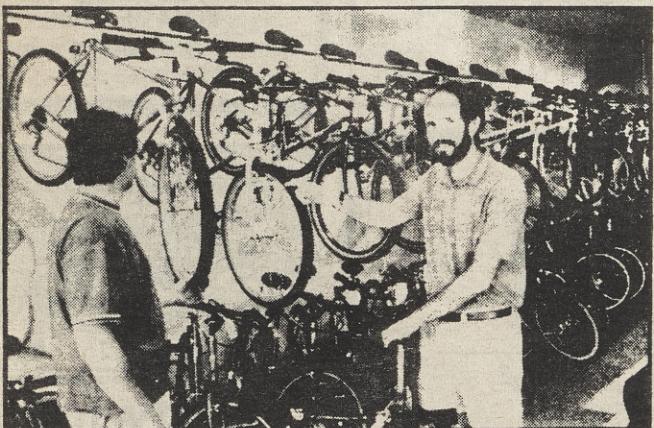
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RCDC Officers Nominated

Officers for the 1990 Executive Board of the River City Democratic Club were nominated at the club's December 18 meeting. Those nominated were: For President: Karl Green and Mike Varacalli; for Vice President: Ed Condon; for Treasurer: Don Wilson; for Legislative Chair: Alan Lofaso; for Women's Issues Chair: Barbara Disney; for Membership Chair: Lou Camera; for Program Chair: Jerry Sloan; for Public Relations Chair: John Linder.

The offices of Secretary, Fundraising Chair, and Community Liaison remain open. Elections will be held at the January 22 meeting of the club, at the Lambda Community Center at 20th and L streets. ■

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Doctor with AIDS Denied Right to Sue FBI

by Keith Clark
OF MGW STAFF

San Francisco, CA — In what civil libertarians say both establishes an important precedent for how confidential info is handled and sets limits on its responsibilities to people who are disabled — including people with AIDS — U.S. District Judge Charles Legge ruled that the federal Rehabilitation Act does not allow handicapped individuals to file suit against the federal government, only against organizations or programs receiving federal funds.

Legge dismissed a lawsuit by a San Francisco physician, identified only as Dr. John Doe who charged that the FBI had notified him that it was cancelling appointments for its agents with him and would end its contract for the doctor's routine examinations. The FBI told the doctor in August 1988 it was taking the action because it had learned he had been diagnosed with Kaposi's sarcoma, a cancer associated with AIDS.

Despite reassurance by the hospital with which Dr. Doe is affiliated that the Kaposi's sarcoma diagnosis posed no risk to FBI agents being given routine physicals and testimony during the trial from epidemiologists that U.S. Center for Disease Control health-worker guidelines made the risk of HIV transmission to agents "vanishingly

small," the FBI nevertheless stopped sending agents to Dr. Doe for examinations. In October Judge Legge issued a preliminary injunction ordering the FBI to resume sending agents to the physician for exams and not to disclose any medical information about the doctor.

Although the FBI refused to say how it had learned of Dr. Doe's diagnosis, the physician's attorneys charged that the agency had also threatened to disclose the information to other government agencies at the time. The doctor had been doing the routine examinations of FBI agents since 1984. The physician's name and the identity of the hospital with which he is affiliated are being withheld because of the nature of the suit.

In a ruling made August 30, Legge found that because the doctor was not directly employed by the government but acting as an employee of the hospital which had the contract with the FBI. Dr. Doe lacked technical grounds for his suit. Legge ruled that the rehabilitation Act does not extend to lawsuits by an "employee of a supplier" (the hospital in this case) against federal agencies.

In perhaps a more far-reaching aspect of the ruling, Legge said the FBI acted "in the exercise of their legitimate governmental responsibilities" and that the agency "had a duty to be concerned for (the agents') health." Legge's ruling said that because the FBI investigation of the doc-

tor had revealed only limited medical information about his health, the doctor's right to privacy had not been violated.

Under federal and state anti-discrimination law, AIDS is considered a handicap. Under California law disclosure of specific medical information about people diagnosed with AIDS is forbidden.

The ruling also overturns Legge's earlier preliminary injunction that forced the FBI to resume sending agents to Dr. Doe for routine medical exams.

"This means the FBI is absolutely free to discriminate against Dr. Doe," said Jo Anne Frankfurt, the Employment Law Center attorney representing the physician. "It is clear that the FBI violated Dr. Doe's constitutional right to privacy and that he was discriminated against solely because he has AIDS," she said.

Because of the implications of the U.S. District Court ruling here, Frankfurt said she would ask for a speedy appeal of the U.S. District Court ruling here. Frankfurt said she would ask for a speedy appeal of the case. Dr. Doe's attorneys also included Matt Coles of the ACLU, and Kirke Hasson and Christopher Byers, both of Pillsbury, Madison and Sutro.

Spokespersons for the FBI here declined to comment on the ruling or on whether or not they would now discontinue sending agents to Dr. Doe. ■

Local Gay Couple Battles with Farmers Insurance

others' primary beneficiaries in their wills and insurance policies. Farmers has already issued them joint homeowners and automobile insurance policies. Making them buy two separate umbrella policies, at twice the cost, is, quite plainly, arbitrary discrimination."

Maureen Sheehy, the lead trial lawyer for Hinman and Beaty, said, "When businesses attempt to charge gay and lesbian couples more for the same services provided to heterosexual couples, they can expect a legal battle. Although legal marriage is not yet an option, we will use the civil rights laws and the courts to secure equal rights for lesbian and gay couples."

NGRA's cooperating attorneys on the case are Maureen Sheehy and Paul Dion from the law firm of Feldman, Waldman & Kline in San Francisco. The lawsuit was filed in Sacramento County where Boyce Hinman and Larry Beaty reside. ■

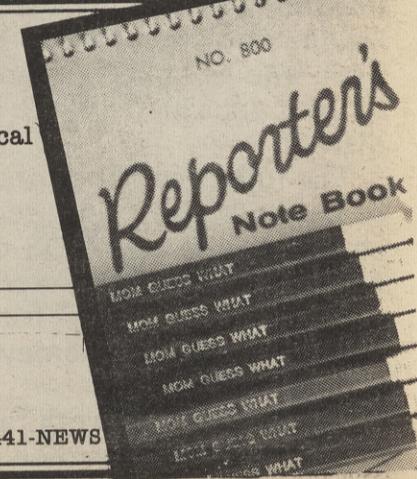
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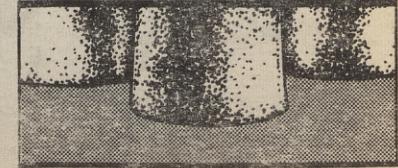
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MGW FLASH!

by John Batchelor
OF MGW STAFF

For phone numbers and details on events mentioned in this column, check the calendar and organization information in the back of the paper.

HAPPY NEW YEAR! with the start of a new decade, our community faces new challenges. We must strive to sustain what we have already gained. And furthermore, we must continue to labor for equal rights for everyone. It only seems to be common sense. Please do your part! • With the advent of a new year, it occurred to me (as it probably did to many of you) to reflect on the past year. This issue's **FLASH!** will feature highlights of the column in 1989. A sort of "FLASHBACK" (no pun intended) commentary • In **JANUARY** we reported a new national lesbian and gay quarterly called "Outlook." It continues to challenge its evergrowing readership The **Sacramento Men's Chorus** (SMC) was embarrassed last year when they arrived at the Teichert mansion a day early for a benefit appearance! And Finally, the first steps were underway for the **Sacramento AIDS Walk**. The successful event took place in May • In **FEBRUARY**, MCC "sprung a spring" and had to close their main church for repairs. They continued services at a temporary location and also started looking for a larger building. As the year progressed, they quickly made the necessary repairs. They also purchased a new building right in their own backyard CSUS Professor Lee Nichols went on the air at KFBK newstalk radio with an issue-oriented talk-show. Unfortunately he left the station in July after a management change The **Positive Social Support Newsletter** (PSSN) took off with a fresh new look Rand Martin and Stan Hadden made strong comments on pending legislation and continued adding balance throughout 1989. The February MGW was also dubbed "The Jane Fonda issue" • **MARCH** ushered in a multitude of gay cable shows: **Being Gay Today**, **Visionz** and the **MCC Television Ministry** **Faces** announced a major remodeling project (still in progress) The **Blue Light Campaign** was introduced as a symbolic gesture of hope in the AIDS crisis **Torch Song Trilogy** made us proud while breaking our hearts And **California State University**, Sacramento hosted the **AIDS Awareness Week** • **APRIL** announced the upcoming **March for Women's Equality/Women's Lives!** The **Lambda Com-**

munity Center

expanded its program to offer free workshops The **Woodland Opera House** opened after an extensive remodeling And the **Healthy Living Series** at the **Sacramento AIDS Foundation** celebrated its one-year anniversary • The opening paragraph in the **MAY** column was considered by many a fan as extremely poetic. As a refresher here it is once again: "As spring struggles to take hold, new hope prevails in our community. A true sense of oneness continues to emerge as a sign of contentment and confidence." Thanks for all your continued encouragement Also in May, **Greg Louganis** fired his former business manager and Malibu housemate **James Babbit** **Barney Frank** was the guest of honor at a **CAP-PAC** 1st anniversary benefit gala (who knew what would follow) And the first annual **Sacramento AIDS Walk** did take place with a promising note for future walks. Almost \$12,000 was raised • In **JUNE**, marriage was on my mind (not my marriage) in the hopes that "unions" would some day be commonplace in our community The fate of Rancho Seco was at the ballot box **Gay Pride Month** was in full swing with the **Lambda Freedom Fair** and the **SF Gay Parade**. The parades and festivals were celebrating the 20th anniversary of **Stonewall** And the **YWCA** honored outstanding Sacramento women • **JULY** took me away to the **Russian River** for my annual trek with friends. The weekend was memorable with a **Fantasy Fashion Show** hosted by yours truly and **Stephen Crow** Denmark legalized same sex marriages A local KWOD disc-jockey made anti-gay comments that caused a flurry in the community And the city council race heated up • **AUGUST** was a turning point for MGW. The paper was now printed twice every month Pillars celebrated seven years of social gatherings **Performing Artists for AIDS Related Charities** (PAARC) presented "Survivors, Dancing in the Light," the group's most successful show The **Flamingo Ball** extravaganza was a night to remember. The event raised \$10,000 for **SAF's Hand to Hand, Client Services** • In **SEPTEMBER**, the **Lambda Community Center** celebrated three years. The center is utilized by more and more people all the time The **City Council** election finally took place creating a future run-off election The third annual **Rainbow**

Festival took place in Faces and on the adjoining street. Attendance was low due to community apathy or poor organization. Coincidentally Bronski Beat was initially postponed and then cancelled. However, the show "Cats Who Care" did take place to everyone's pure delight. Unfortunately the flyers with the schedule of events arrived after the festival. Nonetheless \$4,000 was raised by organizers. Hopefully next year, word of mouth will get around earlier and we can all enjoy this noble effort • **OCTOBER** brought in rumbles and rolls with the **San Francisco earthquake** It was a turning point for the **Lambda Letters Project**. Over 1,000 letters were generated The **SMC's Hellfire Ball** made an impressive showing in year one My Los Angeles friends went dancing in **Disneyland** to celebrate the 9th anniversary victory of same-sex couple dancing And **Delta Lambda Phi** started a chapter of the gay fraternity at CSUS • Nearing the end of 1989, **NOVEMBER** brought our caring community together with many earthquake relief efforts The sixth annual **RCDC Lambda Awards Dinner** "Celebrating Our Pride" came off without a hitch **Dr. Elizabeth Harrison** was honored with the U.S. Secretary for Health Award and **Dr. Saul Levin** moved to Washington D.C. to work in the Bush Administration • With the year at an end, **DECEMBER** found every organization doing their part to spread holiday cheer The play **T-Shirts** opened at the new **Lambda Center Theatre** And **Being Gay Today** was recognized by the Sacramento



Recipients of Pillars' 1st Annual Community Service Awards (L to R) Larry Kellogg, Ed Conden and Rich Boriolo for outstanding dedication to Sacramento's gay and lesbian community.

Photo by Lou Camera

Community Video Awards •
The 1990 **FLASH** column will
continue to keep you informed.
Please keep me posted on your
special events!

John ■

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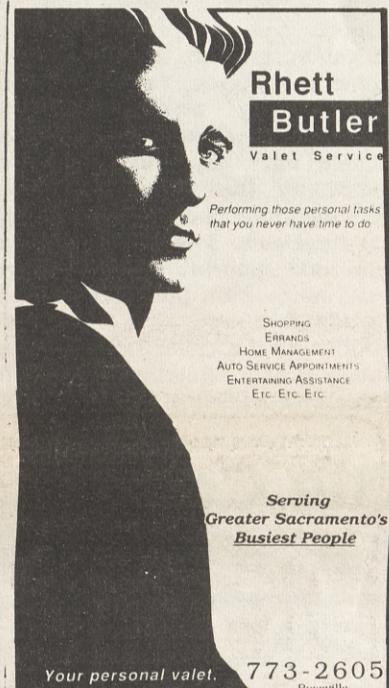
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Local Author Publishes Stories

by Noel Gillespie
OF MGW STAFF

Finale: Short stories of mystery & suspense, edited by Michael Nava.

Michael Nava, the 35-year-old attorney, former MGW writer, author, who, with his two successful Henry Rios novels, has edited an anthology of gay and lesbian mystery short stories for Alyson Publications entitled **Finale: Short stories of mystery & suspense**. This collection spans much of the mystery spectrum from a "puzzle" story to psychological semi-thrillers. Interestingly, at least three of the eight pieces hint at the idea of double personality.

The carefully assembled set includes six stories by males and two by females. Most of the authors live in California or New York. The characters in these stories include more gays than straights but are varied in all respects: age, race, sex, wealth, education, success. Two of the stories (Ivy Burrowes's *Terminal Anniversary* and Gerald Lebonati's *Reunion*) prominently include both gay and lesbian characters. The settings range from big cities like Chicago and Los Angeles to small towns and semi-rural suburbs. The writing styles range from the urbane to the outright rowdy.

Although the collection is obviously aimed primarily at a gay and lesbian audience, there is no

reason why straights should not enjoy it. There are gays, lesbians, and straights in a myriad of roles in these stories: villains, heroes, victims, and investigators. Although the stories explore issues vital to the gay community (AIDS, liberation, gay and lesbian cooperation, discrimination) other basic ideas (friendship, greed, loyalty, compassion, social conscience, and love) are also explored.

Besides contributing one of the best stories and editing the collection, Nava also provided a short but insightful introduction. Sometimes such prefatory material is merely pro forma, but given the importance of this book as the first gay and lesbian mystery collection and Nava's cogent writing, all readers would be well advised to read this introduction before embarking on the varied joys of the stories themselves.

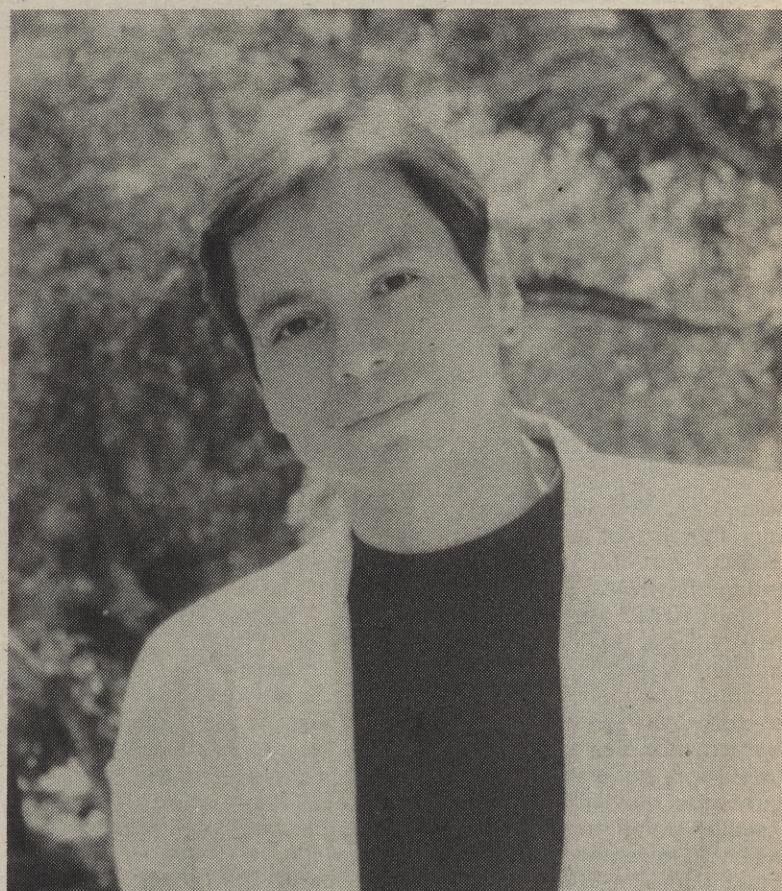
It is well known that article number one of the mystery reviewer's credo is to reveal as little as possible of the plot. Still, it is possible for me to point out that these stories are not only about gay people's experiences, but also about people's experiences with gay people. The gays described are good, bad, or indifferent (or indeed, all three). They are butch, macho, drag, effeminate, in-between, conservative, radical, moderate, or just



like the folks next door. The authors all seem to have cultivated the art of interesting and clever descriptions that are both intrinsically entertaining and germane to the plots.

While there are serious moments in all the stories, there is also a good deal of humor, by no means all of it of the "black" variety. On the contrary, Vincent Lardo's *All About Steve* might be described as a criminous gay comedy of manners (could the title be a takeoff on *All About Eve*) and moments in Phil Andros's *Death and the Tattoo* are obviously tongue in cheek.

The variety of the plotting ranges from straightforward narration through an inverted-type story (Katherine V. Forrest's *Jessie*) to the complex interaction of seemingly disparate events and persons in Nava's engrossingly written *Street People*.



Michael Nava, an award-winning mystery writer, has selected short mysteries written by both established gay and lesbian writers, and newfound talent for *Finale: Stories of mystery and suspense*.

Photo by Robert Dovie

Ultimately, as Nava notes in his introduction, the readability and conviction of the writing is what keeps you reading — and brings you back again. By these criteria, this collection should become a standard volume on the shelf of any reader intrigued by well-written mysteries, with a gay angle, which provoke, entertain, and instruct.

Since this reviewer has a

strong bias for highly literate writing and puzzle mysteries, his favorite stories may not be yours. However, it seems likely that all readers, gay or straight, will feel gratitude to Nava and Alyson Publications for assembling this attractive collection which demonstrates that the art of the mystery story continues to flourish among gay American writers. ■

The Caravaggio Shawl: Alice and Gertrude Resurrected Once More

by Carter Wilson
OF MGW STAFF

The Caravaggio Shawl: A Gertrude Stein and Alice B. Toklas mystery by Samuel M. Steward.

History's most famous lesbian couple gumshoeing about pre-World War II Paris in search of art forgers? Discussing suspects over a citron presse in some louche bistro in Montmartre?

As the Gertrude character of this mystery would say, "Holy cow!"

It's an odd, irreverent concept, all right, fraught principally with the danger of that tackiness which accrues to a novel when the real-life dead are brought

back to fictional life for only prurient, exploitative purpose.

But the perpetrator of **The Caravaggio Shawl**, second of a set of five promised Stein-Toklas thrillers, is a writer incapable of tawdriness. Through a long career, everything from Sam Steward has been informed by his enormous and unflagging capacity for entertaining. Since Max Beerbohm there have been few writers as single-mindedly devoted to fun as this one is.

Steward met the original dynamic duo of sapphism in their later years. His encounters with them appear in his *Chapters from an Autobiography* and their letters to him in a book called *Dear Sammy*. His reason for resurrecting them now is clearly

not to dish or to exploit the friendship, but to prolong it in memory. He even introduces a character very much like himself, a gay spirit from Chicago named Johnny McAndrews who helps Gertrude and Alice with their sleuthing.

The pleasures of **The Caravaggio Shawl** lie more in the palaver of the principals and the blow-by-blows on Johnny's postprandial pickups than they do in the permutations of the plot. The story, like Mimi's, is a simple one. Of a pale April morn, which happens to be their 29th or 30th anniversary (they disagree about almost everything, including the number of years they've been an item), Alice and Gertrude betake themselves to the Louvre to view a recently rediscovered Orpheus and Eurydice by the homoerotic master Caravaggio. Our heroines inspect male nudity with primarily clinical interest. (The covering drapery is so wispy Gertrude determines this Orpheus must be

Jewish.) She so admires one spot of rosy color that doting Alice determines to knit her a scarf of the same hue.

Returning the next day to match yarn samples, Alice discovers the paint on the Caravaggio is still wet! After 300 years? A few minutes later she finds the crime of forgery has been compounded by murder. And since the victim, a museum guard, is also their beloved housemaid's poor husband, Gertrude and Alice join the hunt for both forger and killer.

The milieu for the chase is a richly, variously queer Paree. The great and the near-great appear in cameos (Natalie Barney, Dolly Wilde, Oscar's niece, stage-designer and photographer Cecil Beaton twirling a milkweed pod until it pops apart in his hand). The clues that don't fall so easily into their laps Alice and Gertrude send Johnny McAndrews to investigate. What the ladies principally require of him is that he use sex to get information.

Blessed with a very active libido, Johnny goes willingly. Sam Steward describes the ins and outs of the young gringo's exploits with a combination of ethnographic exactitude, a refusal to pump mush or mystery into describing any orgasm which doesn't deserve it, and some very hot detail — a technique which has been Steward's trademark ever since he began penning erotic tales under the name "Phil Andros."

But what finally makes **The Caravaggio Shawl** such a stable and filling feast is the believability of the Gertrude-Alice relation. Other people's Stein 'n' Toklasses are so serious, and so Gertrudeo-centric. Steward's are real, deeply Victorian women eternally energized by Gertrude's endearing, almost childish quest for la gloire, by the way they've shocked the world, by their own modernity, and by the recognition of their great luck in having found one another.

Being with Sam Steward's Alice and Gertrude is very much like being allowed to sail away with the Owl and the Pussycat — a cruise so jolly it's sad to see it end. ■

Carter Wilson is the author of *Treasures on Earth*, published in cloth by Knopf in 1981. Wilson lives in Santa Cruz where he is a professor of community studies at the University of California.

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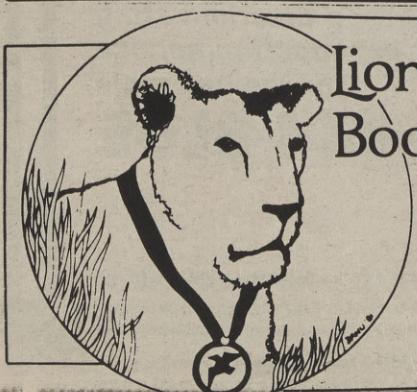
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BOOKS



"Somewhere in the Night" Guarantees Thrills and Chills

by Eric Garber
OF MGW STAFF

Like many readers, I relish a good horror story. Raised on spooky ghost stories told 'round campfires, I savor the modern chillers of Stephen King, Clive Barker, and Anna Rice. Horror fiction provides me with inexpensive and safe thrills and an escape from mundane day-to-day life. It can also, as Anne Rice's devoted readers have learned, provide deliciously erotic entertainment.

But for gay and lesbian readers, the homophobia in most contemporary horror stories can be as frightening as the demons, vampires, and ghosts who populate them. When gay people appear in horror fiction, we are usually simply stereotypical victims, waiting to be gruesomely slaughtered by despicable monsters, or even worse, we are the incarnations of satanic evil itself, deserving of our ultimate destruction. Finally, there's something new.

Jeffrey N. McMahan's riveting new collection of hair-raising horror tales *Somewhere in the Night* is guaranteed to provide the thrills and chills usually associated with horror and the supernatural, but not the unpleasant aftertaste that repels many gay readers. He builds bone-chilling suspense in his tales,



which is mixed with just the right amount of the unknown and the unexpected. His nightmares are terrifying, horrible, yet believable. Humor is present throughout his collection. But best of all, in each of the eight tales in *Somewhere in the Night*, the primary character is uncompromisingly gay.

McMahan's gay characters are not the stereotyped cartoons normally encountered, but instead are complex and well developed. In his "The Apartment Possess-

ed," for example, an intelligent young gay man moves into a new apartment. He finds his lifestyle and his relationships are slowly changing, and gradually realizes that his apartment is haunted. Johnny and Robert in "Two-faced Johnny," are two young gay men out looking for a good time who discover more than they bargained for when they crash a macabre Halloween party. Ethan is an established gay suburbanite until he discovers a strange, ominous weed in his carefully tended lawn in "Who Could Ask for Anything More?" Each of these characters is depicted with depth and skill.

In addition to portraying gay characters, McMahan also evokes the terror of the first-rate horror writer. In "The Dark Red Day," one of the collection's scariest stories, Richard, a successful gay man, returns to the small town of his youth to visit his family and a former male lover. The bigotry and homophobia of the town ultimately destroy him, but Richard rises from the grave to seek his revenge. This is the delightfully creepy stuff that Stephen King novels are made of, not the usual run-of-the-mill gay novel.

The collection's two best

stories, "Somewhere in the Night" and "Hell is for Children," revolve around Andrew Lyall, a witty and sophisticated vampire. Lyall is in some ways quite traditional. He sleeps in a coffin, avoids garlic, and loathes the daylight. But unlike Hollywood vampires, Lyall is gay and finds his victims in gay pickup bars. His undead existence becomes complicated when he finds himself becoming emotionally and physically attracted to his prey. Other authors would find it difficult to create a character who is both sympathetic and yet is also a ruthless predator, but McMahan handles this difficult material exceptionally well. Andrew Lyall is such a fascinating and contradictory character, he deserves his own novel.

In fact, this is my only complaint with *Somewhere in the Night*. There just isn't enough of it.

So if ghosts, ghouls, and vampires are your type of reading, make sure to pick up Jeffrey McMahan's *Somewhere in the Night*. But make sure to eat lots of garlic before opening its pages, and don't read it after dark!



Eric Garber is a writer and reviewer living in San Francisco. He has co-edited *World's Apart: An anthology of lesbian and gay science fiction and fantasy*. He is also at work on an anthology of gay and lesbian vampire stories.

Steward Bases Books on Friendship

by Mike Hippler
OF MGW STAFF

Not every man can claim Gertrude Stein and Alice B. Toklas as personal friends. But Sam Steward, the author of the newly-published mystery novel, *The Caravaggio Shawl*, is not just every man. This urbane octogenarian, who now lives quietly in a modest Victorian cottage in Berkeley, California, has led a remarkable life as a teacher, traveller, tattoo artist, pornographer, author, and literary groupie. It is in this last capacity that he first met Stein and Toklas a half-century ago.

Explains Steward, "One of my favorite professors at Ohio State was a member of their circle. When he died suddenly in 1932, I took it upon myself to inform them in a letter. Gertrude wrote back, and we began corresponding. Five years later, in the summer of 1937, I spent two weeks with her and Alice at their chateau in Southern France. I visited again in 1939. After Gertrude died, I continued to see Alice every year from 1950 until her death in 1967."

On the basis of that relationship, Steward has written four books to date: *Dear Sammy* (1977), a collection of letters from Stein and Toklas; *Parisian Lives* (1984), a thinly-disguised historical novel about Sir Francis Rose, Stein's last and most notorious protege; *Murder is Murder* (1984), a mystery novel featuring Gertrude and Alice as detectives, which Steward describes as "a sexual romp in Southern France"; and *The Caravaggio Shawl*, a "prequel" to *Murder is Murder*.

Steward is the first to admit that to base four books on a relationship which was limited primarily to a few brief vacations and a series of letters requires

chutzpah. "But if you are isolated in the country with two aging ladies as their house guest 24 hours a day," he notes, "two weeks is a pretty long time. You really get to know them." Despite the relationship's limitations, Steward claims to have forged a unique bond with the two women. As proof, he points out that, as far as he is aware, he is the only person who was informed of Stein's homosexuality by Stein herself. Furthermore, he is one of the few people who never had a falling-out with Stein.

Of course, when Stein died, Steward had not yet written a book about her — and Stein did not like to be used as grist for the literary mill. "But," says Steward, "I never felt guilty about writing about Gertrude and Alice because I never used them as an arriviste or literary climber would. Furthermore, when I saw Alice for the last time, she said, 'Do what you can to keep (Gertrude's) memory alive, won't you?' With that kind of request, how could I go wrong? At least one critic seems to have understood this. Describing Par-

sian Lives, he said, 'Although (Stein and Toklas) looked with dismay on any book written about them, here is a book they would have liked.'

Liking an historical novel is one thing; liking a mystery novel is another. Would the highly-regarded Stein have appreciated being cast as a detective in not one but two murder mysteries? "Actually," Steward explains, "Gertrude was an omnivorous reader of mysteries. She read them all, old and modern, and she read them constantly — nearly one a day. She even wrote one herself, *Blood on the Dining Room Floor*. It wasn't very good, as she admitted, but this didn't matter. I think she would have liked being cast in the role."

One of the things Stein might not have approved in Steward's mystery novels is the generous amount of sex included. As he states in *Chapters from an Autobiography*, "She and Alice were very private persons, really Victorian — completely monogamous, abstemious, and on the surface more than a little reserved."

But one woman's reticence is another man's passion, and Steward got his start writing pornography under the pseudonym Phil Andros, after all. "Why not

include sex?" he asks. "These books are intended for a gay audience, and people like to read about it. Besides, I'm responsible for all those damn Phil Andros books (*Stud*, *My Brother the Hustler*, etc.), and they're still selling. I must be doing something right."

Because Stein died long before Steward's first book was published, Steward has no idea what she would have thought of his work. As much as he admires Stein's own oeuvre, he denies that his writing style has been influenced by hers. I like to read her, but my writing is slanted in another direction," he says. "If I got anything from her, it was a sense of rhythm and repetition that I may have adopted subconsciously. Other than that, I have developed my own style."

As far as more books based on Stein and Toklas are concerned, Steward says, "I don't know. In *Murder is Murder*, I mentioned four other mysteries that the couple had already solved, and one of them was *The Caravaggio Shawl*. Now a friend of mine is holding me to the other three. Sometimes I wish I had just mentioned two instead of four. It seems I have my work cut out for me."



Samuel M. Steward is pictured here visiting with long-time friend Alice B. Toklas on the terrace of her home in Paris.

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Acupuncture: A Poke A Day

by Victoria Marcott
OF MGW STAFF

Upon entering the office of Dr. Ariel Ertel, acupuncturist, I was surprised by the lack of oriental decorum. The fields of acupuncture and oriental medicine have, in the past been shrouded by a veil of mysticism. Dr. Ertel takes the mysticism, as well as the mystery out of acupuncture.

Situated in a cozy office in downtown Sacramento, Dr. Ertel tends her patients personally without the aid of an assistant. She has an air of serenity that immediately puts visitors at ease. Originally her interest lay in chiropractic care. However, in the course of her studies she became familiar with and ultimately interested in acupuncture.

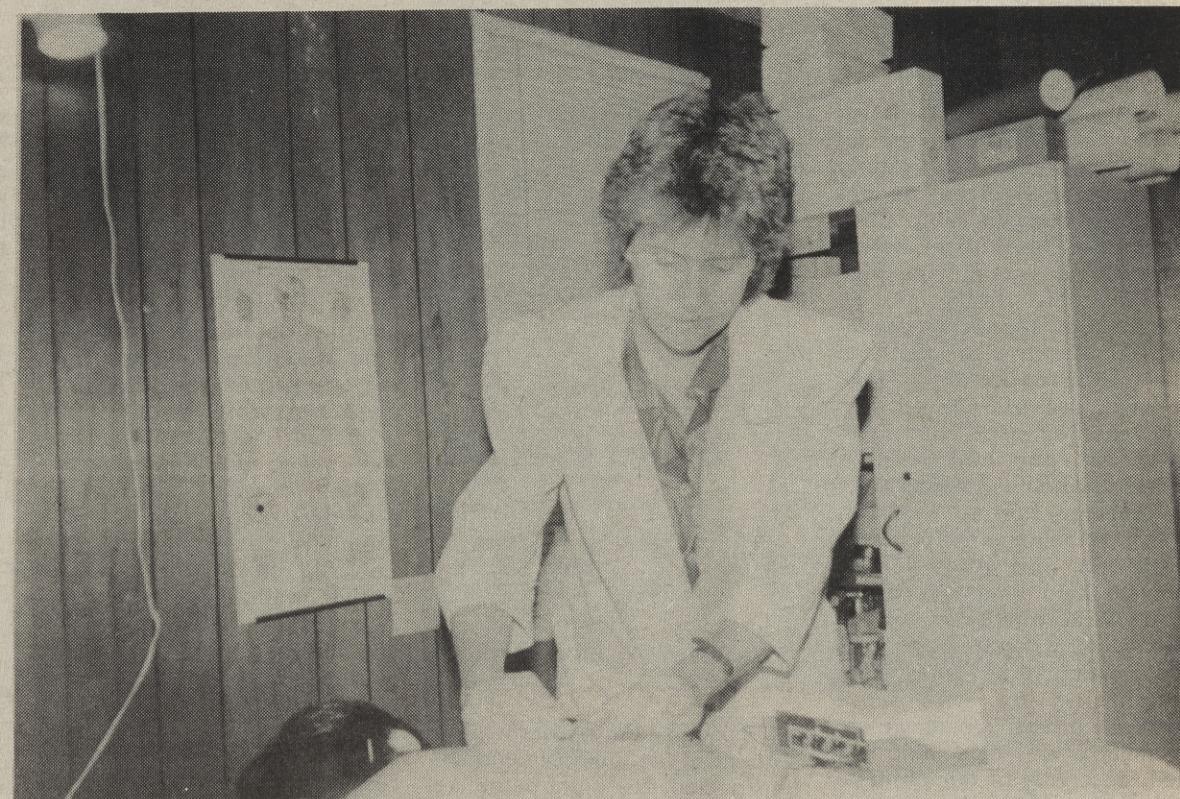
Her studies began in England and were completed at the San Francisco College of Acupuncture. She also holds a doctorate degree in Oriental Medicine.

I was lucky enough to observe a treatment being administered by the doctor. Contrary to what I had envisioned: needles eight inches long and as big around as a toothpick; in actuality the ap-

pearance is quite harmless. The needles measure about two inches long and are very fine. Much smaller than a hypodermic needle. Dr. Ertel uses sterile, disposable needles which are inserted with a light tap of her finger. They are usually placed one-quarter to one inch in depth. The depth and locations in which the needles are used depend upon the particular ailment which one is being treated. Except for a slight pinch or twinge, the procedure is painless. Various sensations, such as a feeling of heaviness or deep relaxation, have been reported. Some patients actually fall asleep during treatment.

Poking people isn't all that Dr. Ertel does. She also uses acupressure and herbal medicine in treating her patients.

Admittedly, a lot of people seek help from an acupuncturist only as a last resort. Dr. Ertel is encouraged that more people are using her skills in combination with the more traditional means of therapy, such as chiropractic care. A number of disorders can be treated with acupuncture and oriental medicine. Problems with the ears, nose and throat; neurological and muscular pain; symptoms of gastrointestinal



problems, are just some of the reasons that patients seek help. Dr. Ertel also provides assistance with weight control and smoking.

Although she emphasizes that treatment also calls for a change in one's daily habits, it will alter the cravings for cigarettes and

some foods. The severity and type of problem dictates the number of treatments needed.

Dr. Ertel hesitates at quoting fees, because they largely depend upon the symptoms and number of treatments needed. However, she does offer free consultations.

Truly a woman who believes in the field she has chosen, Dr. Ertel encourages interested individuals to telephone her office. She is always happy to answer any questions. ■

Gay BBS Services Expanding

by David Marcus
OF MGW STAFF

Escalating demand in Sacramento's gay community has lead several computer enthusiasts to greatly expand the free BBS services they have been offering for the past three years.

A BBS, or Bulletin Board System, is a computer-based network or operation in which computer users with the right equipment can connect their systems via telephone lines with a host computer, that in turn gives them the ability to contact others.

Operators of the two systems, or "boards," Acropolis and Parthenon, have combined efforts to make seven telephone lines available 24-hours-a-day for anything from electronic mail to lively discussions of politics, movies and issues critical to members of the gay community.

To the person who "logs-on" to Acropolis or Parthenon, the jargon describing how you utilize the systems is similar to wandering into a large hotel. You are first connected to the "lobby" where you can read general interest messages available to the public. From there, you can check the "mail room" for private messages and then, depending on your interest, you can navigate through a labyrinth of memory in the host computer to read or contribute other written information.

Access to anything beyond the lobby is controlled by the system operators and is restricted to persons over the age of 18. The reasons are obvious; topics of discussion can at times run out.

side the parameters of what some parents might want their children to participate in, and recent legal activity has required operators of systems like Acropolis and Parthenon to take actions to prevent access by minors.

Software for the boards was created by Robert Bequette, a software engineer and one of the system operators of Acropolis. Bequette, and Will Bennett, founded the Acropolis board just over three years ago after determining that providing the free services would be of significant value to Sacramento's gay community.

Two years later, a second board called gAmiga was brought "on-line" to expand the available time and lines for the 300-plus users accessing the systems 24 hours a day.

This fall, faced with complaints of busy lines and not enough access time, the operators of gAmiga, John Delk and another man known by his "handle" Ricky, decided to significantly upgrade their equipment and add trunk lines providing access to users from a wider calling area. Part of the upgrade included adding new equipment and the new name, Parthenon.

As non-profit operations, the system operators, known as "sysops," absorb the costs of keeping the two systems running. They always welcome donations, but none are expected. This non-profit status is unusual for the type of service that they are offering; most BBS systems charge subscription fees to their users to pay the thousands of dollars of expenses that can occur.

The boards have provisions for users to retain complete privacy. Names are not needed, except when users first begin using the system. The sysops then encourage users to choose "handles" or anonymous names to allow them to explore their thoughts without worrying about their actual identity becoming known.

It is this anonymous access that has provided emerging members of the gay community an opportunity to explore their sexuality without risk of their identity becoming known.

To Will Bennett, this part of the activity on the board is its greatest service.

"For many of our members, this (Acropolis) is their only link with their sexuality," Bennett says. "Perhaps the most poignant experiences I have had are these young adults who are just realizing their sexuality and feel very guilty and alone — some turn 18 and are sure that there's nobody else like them in town.

"I've sat at the keyboard for hours on end talking with them; the screen adds a degree of anonymity that's very valuable, they can't even talk over the phone ... the words just won't come out. But on a keyboard, it works; it's just impersonal enough. Typing the words helps them realize who they are."

The operators of Parthenon, Ricky and John, consider Acropolis to be their "mother board." Indeed ... other than the graphics, the boards operate in an identical fashion. John says he started up Parthenon's predecessor, gAmiga, to help take the load off Acropolis.

"I began running the second BBS in hopes that one could

always connect with a gay/bi/lesbian BBS and never get a busy signal," John says, "and expanding service is crucial to (increasing) the gay communities networking abilities."

Busy signals still occur anyway. Demand is so high that during "prime time," evenings 5 to 11 p.m., it is often difficult to connect up to the systems. With a capacity of a total of 800 potential users, the seven available telephone lines are already not adequate. Acropolis plans to add a fourth line in the near future.

Virtually anyone with access to a computer set-up for external communications can log-on to Acropolis or Parthenon. For the technical-minded, Acropolis operates on an AT-Class clone, Parthenon on a 386 tower. The computers communicate through the use of modems

capable of operating at 300/1200/2400 baud.

Telephone access numbers are as follows: Acropolis 967-5817. Parthenon 443-8851 or 927-2702. There is no charge for the use of the systems. Questions regarding equipment needs or utilization of the systems can be directed to Will Bennett, 996-5678 (voice). ■

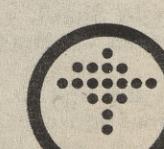


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MGW Calendar

January

1 Monday

► Happy New Year

2 Tuesday

► Michael Himovitz Gallery celebrates a decade of Artistic Achievement — a 2-week birthday celebration of artists' interpretations of the birthday cake in their media of choice, thru Jan. 13, 11-4pm, 1020 10th St. 448-8723.

3 Wednesday

► Barefoot in the Park, Garbeau's Dinner Theatre, 12401 Folsom Blvd. Rancho Cordova. Res. required 985-6361.

► Outdoor Adventures of Sacramento potluck/meeting; Stan 441-3285 or Rick 441-2236.

4 Thursday

► Barefoot in the Park (see Jan. 3)

► Being Alive Living Room, drop in social setting for persons with AIDS and HIV disease, 2-5pm, Lambda Community Center, 442-0185.

► Bereavement Support Group for parents and family members of persons who have died of AIDS, Lutheran Church of Our Redeemer, 4641 Marconi Ave., Fireside Room, free, 7pm, 483-5691.

5 Friday

► Barefoot in the Park (see Jan. 3)

► GAY GAMES III early registration deadline, 443-6440.

► Jackie MOMS Mabley, Chautauqua Playhouse, 5325 Engle Rd., Ste. 100, Carm. 489-7529, 8pm.

► PILLARS, 6pm, Sierra Inn, 455-1771.

► Sacramento Symphony, Masterworks, Community Center Theater, \$12-\$22, 8pm, 649-0300.

6 Saturday

► Barefoot in the Park (see Jan. 3).

► "A Rare Event," The Great Sacramento Rare Book and Ephemera Show and Sale, collectible book and paper show and sale, 10am-5pm, Capitol Plaza Holiday Inn, \$3, 443-6223.

► Photography on the Border of Reality, Matrix Gallery, 1725 1 St., reception, 7-9pm, exhibition thru Feb. 2, 441-4818.

► Jackie MOMS Mabley, see Jan. 5.

► Sacramento Symphony, see Jan. 5.

► "In Vague References," exhibition by Lonny Phipps, Dito Gallery, 1724 1 St., reception 6:30-8:30pm, exhibition thru Jan. 31, 441-DITO.

7 Sunday

► "A Rare Event..." see Jan. 6.

► Webber's Book Shop Poetry Series, Jane Blue, Victoria Dalkey, Mike Spring, 2107 P St., \$2 donation, 8pm, 446-9346.

► Sacramento Symphony, 3pm, see Jan. 5.

► Dignity Women's Potluck, 12:30pm, Marilyn 456-4396.

8 Monday

► Open Mike for poetry readings and musicians, no cover, Drago Cafe & Gallery, 2326 K St., 443-2669.

9 Tuesday

► Don Cossacks Song and Dance of the USSR, Orpheum Theatre, 1192 Market, SF, 8pm, 8:30pm Fri & Sat, \$18-\$37.50, (415) 243-9001, thru Jan. 14.

11 Thursday

► Being Alive Living Room, see Jan. 4.

► Bereavement Support Group, see Jan. 4.

► Outdoor Adventures, pre-trip meeting for x-country ski trip Jan. 14. Rick, 441-2236.

12 Friday

► Renaissance Concert, Clark Chorale, (209) 946-2832.

► Pete Seeger, Ronnie Gilbert, Holly Near, Berkeley Community Theatre, 8pm, (415) 428-9191.

► Jackie MOMS Mabley, see Jan. 5.

► Peter Nero performing with Sacramento Symphony, \$15-\$25, Community Center Theater, 8pm, 649-0300.

13 Saturday

► Jackie MOMS Mabley, see Jan. 3.

► Peter Nero performing with Sacramento Symphony, see Jan. 12.

► MAJOR IMLS FUNDRAISER, Joseph's Town & Country, Jolanne 921-1466.

► NOMENUS, Radical FairieLand Trust, semiannual Great Circle, in San Francisco, 739-8132 for info. thru Jan. 15.

14 Sunday

► Dignity Mass, 3pm, St. Francis Catholic Church, 26th & K St.

► Outdoor Adventures, x-country ski trip. Rick, 441-2236.

15 Monday

► Sacramento Symphony, Special Event, Martin Luther King, Jr. Concert with 300-member Gospel Choir, \$8-\$13, Community Center Theater, 649-0300.

16 Tuesday

► PFLAG 7:30pm, St. Marks United Methodist Church, 2391 St. Marks Way, Sacramento (PFLAG will meet the third Tuesday of each month at St. Marks)

► Much Ado About Nothing, Sacramento Theatre Company, 1419 H St., preview 8pm, \$11, 443-6722.

17 Wednesday

► Much Ado About Nothing, see Jan. 16.

18 Thursday

► Much Ado About Nothing, see Jan. 16.

► Being Alive Living Room, see Jan. 4.

► Bereavement Support Group, parents and family members of persons who have died of AIDS, Lutheran Church of Our Redeemer, 4641 Marconi Ave., Fireside Room, free, 7pm, 483-5691.

19 Friday

► SACWN — "A Song and A Laugh," June Millington and Over Our Heads, 486-8985.

► Healing Sexual Abuse Workshop for Women, Inner Visions Seminars, thru Jan 21, \$195, Beth, 925-2397, or Jane (415) 654-9275.

► Harlen Globetrotters, 7:30pm, Arco Arena, 928-8499.

► Jackie MOMS Mabley, Chautauqua Playhouse, 5325 Engle Rd., Ste. 100, Carm., 489-7259, 8pm.

► Much Ado About Nothing, see Jan. 16, \$19.

► Sacramento Symphony, Masterworks, Community Center Theater, \$12-\$22, 8pm, 649-0300.

20 Saturday

► Jackie MOMS Mabley, see Jan. 19.

► Much Ado About Nothing, see Jan. 16, \$19.

► Sacramento Symphony, see Jan. 19.

21 Sunday

► HAPPY BIRTHDAY L.B.!!

► Webber Book Shop Poetry Series, Anne Johnson, Rick Cole, 8pm, \$2 donation, 2107 P St., 446-9346.

► Much Ado About Nothing, 2pm, 7pm, \$16, see Jan. 16.

► Sacramento Symphony, 3pm, see Jan. 19.

22 Monday

► "Outlook," monthly lesbian/gay video show from SF, gay cemetery opens in Colma, 10:30 pm, Cable Ch. 47.

► Much Ado About Nothing, 2pm, 7pm, \$16, see Jan. 16.

► Sacramento Symphony, 3pm, see Jan. 19.

23 Tuesday

► Outlook, 5:30 pm, see Jan. 22.

► "It's Your Show: A Spoken Guidebook for the Exhibiting Artist," a Matrix workshop of women artists membership meeting, 7pm, Matrix Gallery, 1725 1 St.

► The King and I Music Circus Winter Season, Community Center Theater, 441-3163.

► Much Ado About Nothing, 6:30pm, \$16, see Jan. 16.

► Sacramento Symphony, 3pm, see Jan. 19.

24 Wednesday

► The King and I, see Jan. 23.

► Much Ado About Nothing, 6:30pm, \$16, see Jan. 16.

► Outlook, 12:30 pm, see Jan. 22.

25 Thursday

► The King and I, see Jan. 23.

► "Hurry Up Please, It's Time" by local playwright Joyce Landers, Sacramento Theatre Company New Voices, 8pm, 1419 H St., 446-7501.

► Much Ado About Nothing, 8pm, \$16.

► Being Alive Living Room, drop in social setting for persons with AIDS and HIV disease, 2-5pm, Lambda Community Center, 442-0185.

► Bereavement Support Group, see Jan. 18.

26 Friday

► The King and I, see Jan. 23.

► Jackie MOMS Mabley, see Jan. 19.

► Much Ado About Nothing, 8pm, \$19, see Jan. 16.

27 Saturday

► Outdoor Adventures, Bicycle Ride, Bowman to Colfax and return, Stan 441-2385, or Rick 441-2236.



28 Sunday

► Sleeping Beauty, see Jan. 27, 2pm.

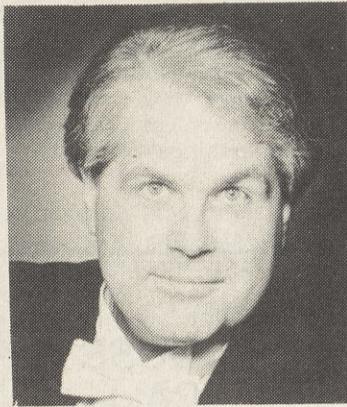
► The King and I, see Jan. 23.

► "Hurry Up Please, It's Time," 2pm, see Jan. 23.

► Webber's Book Shop Poetry Series, Marco Fuoco, Steve Vanoni, 8pm, 2107 P St., \$2 donation, 446-9346.

► Much Ado About Nothing, 2pm, 7pm, \$16, see Jan. 16.

► Dignity Mass, 3pm, St. Francis Catholic Church, 26th & K St.



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Investing in the 90's

by Catherine Whitney, EA
OF MGW STAFF

Historically, investing in American business, through the purchase of stock has given the best return for the money. Will this change in the 1990s? Although many factors involved are changing the overall picture of the stock market, it would seem the return on investment dollars will continue.

In the beginning, the U.S. Stock market rose and fell on a predictable basis. There was a well defined business cycle governed by the state of the economy. Now the market seems to have a mind of its own and the old rules are hard to apply. There are many views of what the market will do as there are advisors and newsletters and writers. Often you read two conflicting stories on the same page of the business section.

Before the recent "Friday the 13th" free fall on the stock market, when the Dow dropped almost 190 points, experts were predicting further advances. What has caused this volatility? For the last 20 years, the individual investor has been leaving the stock market, a trend that speeded up after the October, 1987, stock market crash. Taking their place in the market are large institutional investors aided by computer-programmed trading techniques.

Institutional investors have large sums of money from pension plans, insurance companies, banks, money managers for very wealthy people and mutual funds. They try to maximize their returns as much as they can by using the computer to buy and sell stocks, options and indexes. Thus we see the large swings up and down in the market.

Does this mean the stock market is no longer a good investment? On the contrary, there are factors at work which will make it an even better investment.

Over the last decade, we have seen companies taken over by other companies, we have seen

mergers of companies, and we have seen previously public companies going private. The overall effect of these activities has reduced the total number of shares available. In addition, the total amount of money available has increased as the investment world has become global. Now American investors are competing with money from Japan, Europe, Canada and the Mid-East. So the supply of stocks has gone down and the demand has gone up creating more value for the stocks. To add to this value is the increased productivity of American industry.

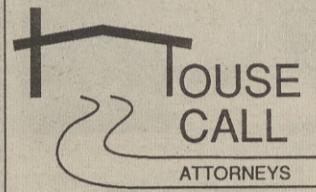
Because of the competition from abroad, American businesses are now creating more products for less money. In the 1990s two things will be hap-

pening that will have a great impact on the United States.

In 1992 the European Common Market will unify and will do away with trade barriers and will have a common currency. Companies with European connections will greatly benefit.

In 1998, the United States and Canada will start phasing in the elimination of all tariffs between the two countries. These two things alone will greatly speed up making the economy worldwide as national barriers are broken down.

So...with the stock market becoming a roller coaster ride, how is the small investor to cope? Over the next few articles I will explore ways to invest that will suit your comfort level. ■



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Res. (916) 386-2127by Bill Gingrich
OF MGW STAFF

A new restaurant has opened in the heart of the 21st Street milieu. At 1315 21st Street, between Capitol Ave. and N street, it is open for lunch from 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., Mondays through Fridays and for dinner from 5 to 10 p.m. on Mondays through Saturdays.

The decor is basically white with turquoise trim. The space is divided into two rooms with a full service bar. Paintings and prints were carefully selected for color and size to pleasantly alleviate the starkness of the walls — fresh flowers add to the decor. One wall holds a multi-colored neon creation, large in expanse, which adds a pleasant glow to the lighting scheme.

The menu declares the featuring of "New California Cuisine." It offers a Sicilian soup, tomato-based with basil, dumplings and mozzarella cheese — a soup du jour is also on the menu. Two salads are listed in addition to the dinner salad. One is a mesquite grilled chicken and the other sesame seed spinach with crisp scallops, mandarin oranges and lychees.

The menu entrees are Capon Breast, Prawn-Scallop Medley, Provini Sweet Breads, Veal Nor-

mand, Veal Medallions, Beef Tri Colour (mesquite grilled filet mignon), New York Steak, and Lamb Chops. On our visit three fish entrees were also enunciated by the waiter, Kassie. A vegetarian plate is offered upon request consistent with a low cholesterol low-fat diet.

I had the shellfish medley which is served on a bed of pasta with anchovies and vegetables in a delicious white sauce. It was a very generous serving and was excellent. The swordfish served to my partner was declared very well executed. The dinner salad was lettuce with a blueberry/vinaigrette dressing with a bite. A delicious berry/mango sorbet was served between the salad and entree.

Several desserts are listed on a separate menu. They all sound tempting. All of the foods are prepared inhouse including the sorbet and desserts. The wine list indicates a carefully selected variety — brief but plenty to choose from. Two champagnes and two dessert wines are included.

The prices are medium, the service attentive, the ambience comfortable. A mellow jazz is quietly heard throughout the house. I recommend the Excelsior. ■

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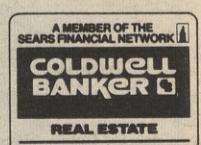
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100% SELLER FINANCING

by Sonya Cox
OF MGW STAFF

Happy New Year

Love and peace to all NEWSLINE readers. You're constantly in my prayers. Fighting for your life is hard work sometimes, but hang in there, use common sense to stay well and sober, and practice safe sex (you knew I'd throw that in somewhere!) ■

Shopping Mall Screening

The government warned recently that mobile health facilities set up to test cholesterol levels in shopping malls sometimes violate guidelines for preventing the spread of HIV and hepatitis, which call for technicians to wear new gloves each time blood is drawn and dispose of bloody materials in specially marked containers. The state said it has authority to regulate tests in a doctor's lab but not in a shopping mall. ■

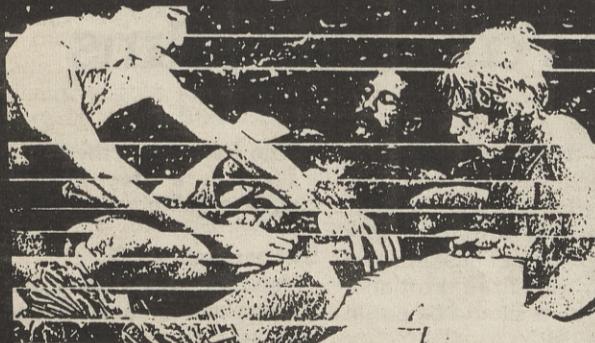
Women and Children with AIDS

Women make up 1.5 million of the 5 million people who have HIV infection worldwide, according to the World Health Organization, and more women are expected to become positive with the virus in the next two years than in the last ten. "Mothers usually lack the support provided to the gay community," they say. (This biased statement by WHO is untrue and offensive. Gay men are not provided with support. They have created it with the invaluable help of lesbians and others.) Women, they say, must carry the rage and despair and guilt of having infected their child. Between 20 and 60 percent of mothers-to-be with HIV will infect their fetuses, raising moral issues regarding abortion. Of those born infected, 20 percent will probably develop AIDS the first year, and 80 percent by the fifth year. Researchers are also preparing for children who test negative in childhood and then get AIDS 15 years later. The Child Welfare League is preparing now to line up foster parents, saying as many as 30,000 children in the United States will have HIV disease within two years, and will need homes when their parents die of HIV-related causes. ■

Hemophiliacs' Numbers Rising

Americans with hemophilia (a hereditary blood defect in males, characterized by delayed clotting and consequent difficulty in controlling hemorrhages that can occur with the slightest injury) have the highest HIV infection rate of any population in the world and face the spread of the virus to their wives and children (female children can pass it along to sons). Nearly 60 percent of the nation's 20,000 hemophiliacs carry HIV which they unknowingly got from blood transfusions prior to the careful screening of donated blood that was begun four years ago, and nearly 95 percent with severe hemophilia and who require more transfusions have HIV. At this point, about 1100 hemophiliacs have full-blown AIDS, to some degree because these heterosexuals are slow to practice safe sex. One researcher said that a check of blood samples of her patients show that many had HIV as far back as 1978, six years before the virus was even identified. ■

Alcohol & drugs can give you more than a hangover



Alcohol and drugs can scramble your decisions about Unsafe Sex.

If you are having Unsafe Sex because of alcohol or drugs, you can do something about it.

Stop on your own, or if you can't, ask for help. Call the Sacramento AIDS Foundation and find out where you can get some help.

The next BUDDY CONNECTION Safe Sex Workshop is scheduled for:

Monday, December 18, 7 - 10 p.m.

BUDDY CONNECTIONS are held at SAF Training Space, 1900 K St. #201, Sacramento.

For more information call Joe Chase at 916 • 448 • 2437

World AIDS Day

Police wearing rubber gloves carried off 78 protesters at the AIDS Day demonstration by the nation's top AIDS organizations in front of the White House. The protest was to publicize the demand of AIDS organizations that President Bush do more about the deadly epidemic. More than 600 arts institutions, mostly museums, held "A Day Without Art" to draw attention to the devastating effect AIDS has had on the arts community; scores of galleries shut their doors for World AIDS Day, draped paintings in black cloth, or let patrons in for free, suggesting that the money be donated instead to AIDS organizations. ■

AIDS Legal Group in Turmoil

In recent months, seven of 10 employees of the National Gay Rights Advocates have either resigned or been fired after a bitter power struggle within the organization. Among those dismissed last week was Ben Schatz, widely regarded as a leading expert on AIDS legal issues. ■

And The Band Plays On

Following closely in the footsteps of his predecessor, President Bush received failing marks from AIDS organizations for his response to this deadly epidemic that has now stricken 112,241 Americans, killing 66,493 of them as of last month. The groups say the Republican Administration has failed again in the areas of preparing a national AIDS strategy, financing, prevention efforts, and access to treatment and care. ■

AIDS Inmate to be Hospitalized

In a precedent-setting case, a federal prison inmate with AIDS will be allowed to be hospitalized after a Missouri judge ruled that the U.S. Bureau of Prisons lacks adequate facilities to treat the disease. Lawyers for the prisoner are now preparing a class-action lawsuit on behalf of all federal prisoners with AIDS. ■

A Plan for Businesses

Because of medical advances that can significantly prolong lives of PWAs and allow them to work for years after diagnosis, the San Francisco AIDS Foundation has developed a new instructional package to help companies cope with AIDS in the workplace. A manual and a 24-minute videotape discuss confidentiality, employment benefits, bereavement and other issues. The program has been put together with the backing of 15 corporations across the country, including Pacific Bell, Pacific Gas & Electric, Bank of America, and Syntex. ■

Thank you to Dr. Sandy Pomerantz for his continuing medical oversight of the information provided on the HIV Newsline page and to Dr. Elizabeth Harrison for continually providing current medical information for use in this column. ■

What is Neuropathy?

by Sonya Cox
OF MGW STAFF

Neuropathy is the name of a group of nerve disorders whose symptoms may range from a tingling sensation, numbness, or pain in the toes and fingers, all the way to paralysis. Some estimate that 35 to 50 percent of people with AIDS (PWAs) will develop some form of neuropathy, often caused by HIV itself, CMV, or other herpes viruses. In addition, some AIDS therapies can cause neuropathy. Some neurotherapies are treatable if diagnosed early, others are not.

DSPN (distal symmetric peripheral neuropathy) is the most common syndrome in which there may also be hair loss or redness of the legs. Weakness is usually mild, but can be severe. Many individuals stabilize or improve without treatment. There is no specific treatment for DSPN but when it's brought on by the CMV virus, treatment with ganciclovir within 10 to 12 days after the onset of symptoms usually results in recovery.

CIDP (chronic inflammatory demyelinating polyradiculoneuropathy) gets worse over time and results in significant weakness of the muscles. CIDP progresses slowly and is usually found in people with severe opportunistic infections or wasting syndrome. ■

Beating The Odds

by Sonya Cox

rage and love and terror and joy
the crucifixion
the holocaust
other wars in which our betrayed and martyred children perished
strangers holding hands
lovers staring into the eyes of one another,
finding new meaning in a glance or a touch
another holiday, and most of us
are coping with the odds and winning,
even tho some thought we couldn't.
hang in there, dear friends,
the answer is on the way
and the love will hold us together
peace to those who left us
and to those left behind
go to sleep AIDS
we've got your raging message now
live in our bodies gently
and slumber in a peaceful corner
'til the passage of the next holiday season
and the next
and the next
and the next
into the endlessness of time



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January 1, 1990 MOM... GUESS WHAT! NEWSPAPER Page 9

Making Films About Outsiders

by Dell Richards
OF MGW STAFF

Portland, Ore. — Filmmaker Gus Van Sant, 36, burst up on the national scene in a flurry of accolades. *Newsweek* called Van Sant's latest movie, *Drugstore Cowboy* "extraordinary;" the *Los Angeles Times* dubbed it "electrifying." Even the staid and somber *New York Times* hailed Van Sant as one of the up-and-coming generation of new directors.

Articles full of applause left out two essential details. Van Sant isn't a novice; he's been making movies since he was 12 years old. And he isn't part of the straight, Hollywood mainstream. He is gay and his first film was gay-oriented.

Without these two facts, it is almost impossible to understand why Van Sant's films are so good or why he makes the movies he does. Being gay, Van Sant understands people who do not fit into the mainstream. As an outsider himself, he is willing to tackle subjects other directors wouldn't dream of taking on.

"Most of my films fall into an area that's never been touched or mentioned except in news articles or documentaries," said Van Sant.

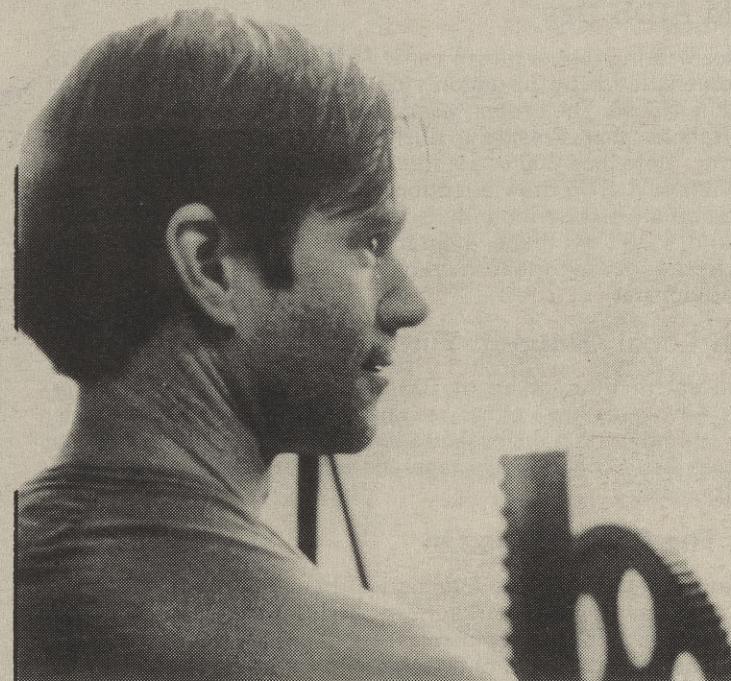
Drugstore Cowboy, starring Matt Dillon and Kelly Lynch shows the underbelly of society, the people Nancy Reagan's "Just Say No" campaign could never reach — four unemployed addicts who rob pharmacies to support their drug habits.

Drugstore Cowboy is Van Sant's first feature to get nationwide distribution and the second to garner well-deserved praise. Although most people don't know it, Van Sant's first full-length drama, *Mala Noche* won the 1987 Los Angeles Film Critics Award for the Best Independent. The nitty-gritty movie also angered many in the gay community for its choice of subjects — a gay man whose unrequited love for a heterosexual makes his life miserable. "Why doesn't he make films about healthy gays?" was the familiar refrain.

Sensitive to the criticism that's been leveled against the movie, Van Sant explains that politics and art cannot be mixed. When they are, he said, art loses. "Unfortunately, politicians don't have any grasp of art. My films are very realistic, extremely realistic," said Van Sant. "The guy doesn't have any awareness of anybody except himself. Being like he is, he is completely alone — while the whole thing about gay America is that you're NOT alone."

Gay critics questioned why, at this point in time, Van Sant chose to make a film about a "homosexual" — someone who hasn't come to terms with his sexuality — rather than a "Gay" someone who is proud of his sexual orientation.

However, this isn't the first time the extremity of his vision has gotten him into trouble. Even though gay writer Larry Kramer had been talking to Van Sant about turning his play *The Normal Heart* into a movie, the idea was dropped once Kramer and the producer had actually seen Van Sant's work. "My films show a real severe world," said Van Sant. Nonetheless, Van Sant believes that his films will eventually make a difference — for gays as well as other outsiders. "If I tell things the way I see them, eventually it'll help," said Van Sant.



Unlike many gay filmmakers, Van Sant is not interested in making gay movies that appeal to a heterosexual audience. "I don't want to propagandize being gay to the straight world," said Van Sant. "Some films actually do — say *The Life and Times of Harvey Milk* — but mine doesn't."

Van Sant wants to make films for a gay audience but he also wants to deal with problems the gay community is facing. The 1985 *Mala Noche* provided him with such a subject — one that wasn't being dealt with by the major studios — one Van Sant found compelling. "Hollywood wasn't making any films about gay characters but there was a gay audience that wanted these kinds of films," said Van Sant.

Van Sant had attended early gay film festivals and was appalled at the movies shown because organizers had so little to choose from. "At the earlier festivals, they had to show old Tennessee Williams movies." That made Van Sant realize there was an audience for films about gay life. But even making movies about a subject close to his heart didn't change his desire to create a film that was deadly honest. Then as now, Van Sant doesn't intend to let criticism — or success — change his vision.

"My next film is even worse," he said. His next project, *My Own Private Idaho*, is about two street kids who use homosexual prostitution to survive. "It's about kids who are homeless, kids who need attention," said Van Sant. "It investigates the world of male street hustlers — the 14 to 21 years old. It's about trading sex for money, about monetary needs and emotional needs — the absent father syndrome."

The upcoming film raises questions the gay community has yet to answer. Van Sant's next project bears more resemblance to the late gay filmmaker Rainer Werner Fassbinder than contemporary gay directors. This film won't rely on melodrama given Van Sant's desire to play on rather than reinforce stereotypes. But it will deal with a strata of homosexual society rarely seen by most gays — the homosexual underworld peopled by sailors and ex-cons.

"It's a world which is simultaneously macho and straight — at the same time it's not," said Van Sant with another laugh which says that he knows he is being complicated but that he doesn't have any other way to explain this strange phenomenon.

Van Sant believes in telling it like it is, no matter what the subject — or the occasion. When asked why he made films about outsiders, he countered with,

"If I tell things the way I see them, eventually it'll help..."

— Gus Van Sant

parents also helped finance his education — and his early movies — at the prestigious Rhode Island School of Design.

However Van Sant didn't rely solely on his family's money. He did nothing but work, dream up film scenarios and write scripts while he saved money. He financed his first movies by working as a sound man in Hollywood. He made the \$25,000 needed for his first feature by working in a New York advertising agency. "I worked as an agency producer, doing TV commercials," said Van Sant.

Van Sant claims that making movies isn't expensive — at least in the beginning. His film shorts — which cost about \$50 each — bear this out. "You can take a roll of Super-8 in to be processed for \$5," said Van Sant. That's how he got his start and that's what kept him going until he got out of college in 1975.

It was during his college years that he began cutting his artistic teeth — and developing his aesthetic — on the hot filmmakers of the day, Jonas Mekas, Jack Smith and Ron Rice. "I was about 16 years old when I got real

interested in the New York underground movement," said Van Sant. That experimental influence is central to the look and feel of his films. In *Drugstore Cowboy*, Van Sant makes a joke out of the use of hand-held cameras that these filmmakers pioneered. But he actually shakes the camera so that the picture flies around wildly. While it is a spoof, it's also homage to the 1960s film underground that Van Sant's films resemble. Thus, the most telling trait in Van Sant's work is not only his aesthetic but his humor. The last line of credits in *Drugstore Cowboy* — a movie that was filmed in the seediest parts of his home town, in places most people would never see — states in typical wry, Van Sant manner, "Filmed on location in beautiful Portland, Oregon."

It is this ability to use irony as well as compassion that makes his films so palatable — even when the subject is as distasteful as drug addicts, street hustlers or neurotic homosexuals. ■

A Primer of Gus Van Sant Films

by Dell Richards
OF MGW STAFF

Portland, Ore. — Since 1985, gay filmmaker Gus Van Sant has made five movies — two full-length features and three shorts.

Although *Drugstore Cowboy* was financed by a major production company and was distributed nationwide, his other films can only be caught at festivals.

Drugstore Cowboy, 1989. Van Sant's latest about a group of addicts who rob drug stores to support their habit opened in theaters in mid-October.

The script was taken from an unpublished book by James Fogle, a 52-year-old addict who has spent most of his life in jail and is currently serving a 22-year sentence for drug-related crimes.

Matt Dillon — of *Tex*, *The Flamingo Kid* and *Rumblefish* fame — stars. The movie also features William Burroughs — the high priest of junk himself — in a cameo role. The one-hour-and-40-minute feature cost nearly \$4 million to make. After two months in theaters, it had grossed \$3 million and was expected to earn \$6 to \$7 million. Van

Sant plans to use the money he made directing it for his next feature, *My Own Private Idaho*.

He is currently writing a script about two gay street hustlers who work their way from Portland, Ore. to Idaho. It should be out in December, 1990.

Mala Noche, 1985.

Van Sant's first gay feature was made for a mere \$25,000 — peanuts even for a low-budget film. To date, it hasn't recouped its costs.

With the same voice-over narrative technique used in *Drugstore Cowboy*, *Mala Noche* tells the story of an isolated, gay liquor store clerk and his love for a young, Chicago illegal alien.

The script was based on a book by a Portland, Ore., skid row poet. Shot in black and white, *Mala Noche* features many of the same gritty, super-realistic film techniques of *Drugstore Cowboy*.

Ken Death Gets Out of Jail, 1987.

A three-minute short made for \$50, *Ken Death* follows the first step into freedom of a young punk who has been jailed for robbery.

Van Sant made the film about a friend — a street kid who got caught robbing a store.

Switzerland, 1986.

Another three-minute quickie, *Switzerland* is about a street kid who says he's from Switzerland even though he isn't. For the boy, *Switzerland* is a dreamland, a place where in his mind, everything is peaceful.

My New Friend, 1985

In this \$50, three-minute number, Van Sant chronicles the budding friendship with a young kid he met on the street, who appears out of nowhere only to hang out and return to the void again. ■

FREE PERSONALS

see page 19

MGW SPECIAL FEATURE

Part I: Therapists, Therapy & You

by Joyce Bright, MS, Counseling
OF MGW STAFF

When asked to do a series of articles on psychotherapists — Why do people go to one? How do you choose one? — I was tempted to write something along the lines of a consumer's guide. But the more I think about it, the more I realize that I'm uncomfortable with the language of the marketplace. Moreover, as lesbian/gay Americans, we are probably the most sophisticated consumers in the world. Oh, yes, there are some parallels between finding a really good car mechanic and finding a good therapist. But the world of being and existence, of the human mind and spirit, is fundamentally different from the phenomenal world — the world of things. A therapist is not an acquisition, a designer we hire for a little interior decorating. To think of a therapist in this way is to view the existential realities of life as something that can be bartered in the market place. I want to avoid that kind of thinking.

What I am writing about, then, is a way in which we can take care of ourselves; not how to go shopping for a commodity. Yes, in doing psychotherapy or counseling money is exchanged for a service. But what really is the nature of the service? Why do people seek out therapists? What do all those initials behind a name mean and is there a difference between counselors, psychotherapists, and psychiatrists? How do you interview a therapist or find a therapist who is gay/lesbian sensitive? Finally, how do you determine if your needs are being met once you're in therapy, and how do you say good-bye to a therapist who is not meeting your needs? These are the issues I will address in several articles.

To be sure, our society holds negative images of those who regularly visit therapists. In the popular imagination, people who attend to mental health issues are mentally ill, morally weak or narcissistically yuppie or some combination of these. Such an image is hardly surprising in a society which holds that a stiff upper lip and a six-gun are the best way to insure domestic tran-

quility.

Historically puritanical, our culture encourages neither the nurturing of self nor the environment — that place in which the self exists. Our political leadership thinks the solution to problems of drug and alcohol abuse is to teach our youth to say no and to build more prisons for offenders. A license is required to drive a car but not to parent a child. Nowhere are we taught how to care properly; all too often what passes for love is a manipulative ploy exercised by parents to maintain control and utilized by children to avoid abandonment. We are assured by our advertising media that buying just one more gadget — a diamond ring or a car — will make our loneliness go away; our entertainment industry diverts us from our pain.

Addictions, subtly and overtly encouraged by our society, numb us to the reality we live. Moreover, as a highly technical society we are better prepared to find a cure for cancer, for example, than to deal with the loss and separation that are an essential part of the human experience. Our nation is out of control, a family in great anguish. Given this historical context, making wise choices about relationships or our individual destinies appears to be something of a crapshoot. Counseling, therapy, nurturing the self is quite simply counter to our national leadership and cultural mores.

It's important to recognize that the very idea of seeing a therapist causes a certain amount of fear and conflict because it goes against our social and familial conditioning. We are taught to keep secrets in the family; as a nation we are rugged individualists. Therefore, the first thought that comes to mind, perhaps when we hear that a friend is seeing a therapist is: "Well, I always knew Joe had a problem, but I didn't know it was that bad." Or "yeah, it's a good thing Milly is seeing a therapist — she's too weak and crazy to take care of herself." Someone who goes to a therapist is someone who is crazy, weak or stupid. The fear is that if I go to a

therapist, then I must be crazy, weak or stupid. I really believe, however, that the society we live in is so crazy-making, that only in moments of extreme clarity and courage does one contemplate seeing a therapist at all. So many pressures bear against seeking therapy, that often people can't even see this as an option in terms of self-care or relationship maintenance.

This is doubly so for lesbians and gays. We are acutely aware that we have disappointed our parents and that we are outcasts of our society. Going to therapy would only confirm what our parents and society think about us — we're mentally ill. Our high rate of alcoholism and drug abuse attest to the internal battle we wage, the price we unwittingly are willing to pay for our difference. Yet it is equally true, that gays and lesbians "do" therapy proportionally in greater numbers than mainstream society. I believe this is a healthy sign. It means we care about ourselves and our relationships. It means we are actively seeking our own power in a society that systemically disempowers its members.

The goal of therapy is not to make the sick well. In general the goal of therapy is to gain, through psychological insight and honest introspection, control in one's life such that the self is nurtured and relationships are enriched. Maybe it's a behavior that is out of control; maybe it's a thought-process. Maybe there's just a nagging thought that something is missing in my relationship; but the thought itself indicates an area over which one feels a lack of control. Or maybe it just feels like everything outside of the self is in disarray and falling apart and the current pain in one's life is intolerable because of that. Whatever the area, the goal of therapy is to put individuals in touch with their power such that internal satisfaction results. In this process, honest and truly loving relationships come about. Seldom is the process without pain; but always the self is nurtured.

In Part II, I will detail the role of the therapist. ■

Bob Hall
M.F.C.C. Lic.#MU19878

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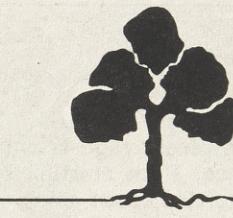
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January 1, 1990 MOM...GUESS WHAT! NEWSPAPER Page 13

MGW MALEBASKET

by Paul Starr
OF MGW STAFF

Dear MaleBasket:

With the recent rage of anti-gay violence, I am starting to get a bit worried about going to the bars. I am especially concerned when I stay late and have to walk a distance to my car. I really don't want to give up going out, and I don't think that carrying a weapon around the bar or wearing a bullet-proof vest would go over very well. Any words of advice?

Sincerely,
Walking Scared

Dear Walking:

I wish I could come up with an easy solution to this horrible trend which seems to be growing in Sacramento. Actually, any solution would be nice, whether or not it's easy. The best that I can advise you about are some things which can minimize your chances of being targeted by these morons.

★ Avoid walking around alone in areas known to be frequented by large numbers of gays: i.e., near the bars; 10th Street Beach; near the adult bookstores; etc.

★ Go to your car in small groups and escort each other to your cars. This won't eliminate the target potential, but may make a lone fag-basher, or a couple "good ol' boy" morons think twice about taking on a group.

★ Carrying a weapon of any kind is a risky proposition. A night stick can just as easily be used against you if the moron manages to get it away from you. Don't whip out a weapon unless you really know how to use it. If you are successful with a weapon of your own, you may have won the battle but you may subject yourself to an assault charge. Some of our not-so-sympathetic peace officers may not look too favorably on a paranoid fag beating up an unarmed innocent pedestrian, and it may get you into a difficult legal battle that you could lose.

★ Don't look like a target. It is really difficult to outrun your assailant if you are in your best high heels and a ball gown to die for. Use a little common sense when out on the town.

★ Think defensively. Take a good look around when leaving the bars. If it doesn't look quite right to you, don't rush out into harm's way.

★ Do a little confidence building: take a self-defense or martial-arts class. Don't look afraid or vulnerable.

Unfortunately, many of these macho morons make their attack runs from speeding pick-up trucks and don't give us time to show them who the real men are.

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Page 14 MOM, GUESS WHAT? NEWSPAPER January 1, 1990

MaleBasket correspondent Paul Starr will be moving to Fresno on January 1, courtesy of a company transfer. His witty and informative column, as well as Paul, will be missed.

WANTED: Someone to write and research the MaleBasket column. Call 441-NEWS.

Bullets travel further than even the most cautious of us can look out for. I think that being aware of the problem, plus being cautious, defensive and confident when you are vulnerable will go a long way in preventing you from being the next target.

MB

Dear MaleBasket:

My lover and I have been together for almost five years. I discovered recently that he has started going to adult bookstores. He told me that he was going there to take a look at the latest male mags, drop a few quarters, and watch the other guys that were also watching the flicks.

I had a hard time with this and I wanted to tell him that I didn't appreciate his going there, but I didn't want to be a controlling lover and I thought he would resent me for it so I didn't bring it up. Well, it appears that the problem solved itself. In a moment of weakness, he confessed to me that he had stopped going to the bookstore because he was harassed by the Sheriff's Department one night as he was leaving. Somehow, however, I think the problem goes deeper than this.

I am not normally distrustful or jealous but I think he was dropping more than his quarters. I am not sure whether to let this whole thing pass or if I should confront him with my insecurities. What do you think??

Sincerely,
All "Peeped" Out

Dear Peep:

First, it seems to me that you care for him a great deal and would like to resolve this matter without doing any damage to your relationship. Whenever a concern of this magnitude arises, it should NEVER be allowed to just blow over. You will harbor this bit of distrust in the back of your mind for a long, long time and it will affect the trust and confidence you have for your lover and you may not be able to give him the trust he deserves when he really needs it - when he really needs you!

If you fear that it could hurt the relationship if you confront him, don't do it alone. There are many counselors to choose from,

advertised here in MGW, use one to mediate your discussion and help you through it. If a counselor isn't the solution for you, then maybe a close friend that the two of you share could be used - either the three of you discussing the problem or you explaining the problem to the friend who in turn shares the concern with your lover with or without mentioning the source.

Whether or not he is inspired into action by the films and their viewers, it is a real problem to you and it must be overcome.

Two other problems come to mind that you should also be concerned about, if you are not already. The first is the very real chance of your lover being arrested for what a peace officer perceives as a lewd or lascivious act. I understand that it is a much bigger threat in the County than it is in the City of Sacramento and is a threat whether it is at the bookstore or at any number of popular gay hang-outs (pardon the pun). It is a very real law with very real legal and judicial repercussions. Your lover was wise to give up his cheap-thrill nights out after his quick (and I assume painless) brush with the law.

The second, and in my mind the most important question that comes to mind would be whether or not my lover was endangering my life while he was dropping his quarters. If he was partaking in the wild life, was he being safe? It is too easy to "slip" when engaging in quick, anonymous sex. There is not usually enough time or conversation to negotiate the mechanics of safe sex.

The problem here may be deeper than your insecurities. These problems need to be addressed and I wouldn't advise doing it without professional guidance.

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- 2) Be alert, report what happened to the police.
- 3) Include a description of your attackers.
- 4) Notice what they say.
- 5) Remember names, distinctive marks, hair or clothing.
- 6) Know where the attack took place.
- 7) Notice the time.
- 8) If you can, notice the car or a license number.
- 9) When you contact the police, know what agency you are talking to. Police Department (blue uniform) work in city proper, Sheriff's Department (green uniform) work in county, Highway Patrol (Khaki or beige uniform) work freeways, highways, rest stops and truck stops.
- 10) Call Lambda for the Report at 442-0185.
- 11) Call MGW at 441-6397.■

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Records For Holiday Listening

by Laura Enright
OF MGW STAFF**If It Don't Kill You, It Just Makes You Stronger** by Bruce Willis, Motown

Bruce Willis' music is like watching a *Moonlighting* rerun. It's boring, ridiculous and very predictable. *If It Don't Kill You...* is a collection of blues, soul and boogie from a variety of sources including remakes of several 40s and 50s hits. The varied collection of song styles seems to prove what I'd thought for some time now, that Bruce Willis' music has no "style" of its own. "If It Don't Kill You..." lived up to its name as far as I'm concerned. I'm not dead, and now maybe I'll be strong enough to stomach listening to this album again.

Never Knew Love Like This Before by Vincent Capretta, Ecstasy Records

Vincent Capretta's newest album *Never Knew Love Like This Before* was a disappointment to me. As I have favorably reviewed three other Capretta albums, I fully expected to put on my dancing shoes with this new one. Surprise! "Never Knew Love Like This Before," originally a well written song from 1977, has been dredged up from its grave and then butchered by Capretta who has taken one quality song and made an entire album out of different very inferior versions of it. Capretta made a mistake when he did this album, a mistake I hope he never makes again.

You Wanna Dance With Me? by Jody Watley, MCA Records

What do you get when you rearrange all of Grammy winner Jody Watley's hits, call them new dance mix versions and package them all together in a single album? Well from the sounds of this one, you get another "not sold in stores-only available through this special TV offer" type of product, something that shouldn't have the MCA Records label on it. My vision that the songs on this album were simply the unpolished, unedited, unprofessional beginning products that were eventually turned into quality hits was correct. These "new" versions show me very little of what Watley is capable of and should have stayed "unreleased."

Dance ya know it! by Bobby Brown, MCA Records

MCA Records seems to be in a rut. *Dance ya know it!* was the second "previously unreleased, re-edited versions" record I was asked to review. The difference with this album versus Jody Watley's "You Wanna Dance With Me?" is that Brown's album is able to carry it off. I loved the new mixes of "Roni" as well as "Rock Wit' Cha" and several other Brown favorites. "Dance ya know it!" is easy to listen to and generally very enjoyable. Brown has real talent anyway you try to mix him.

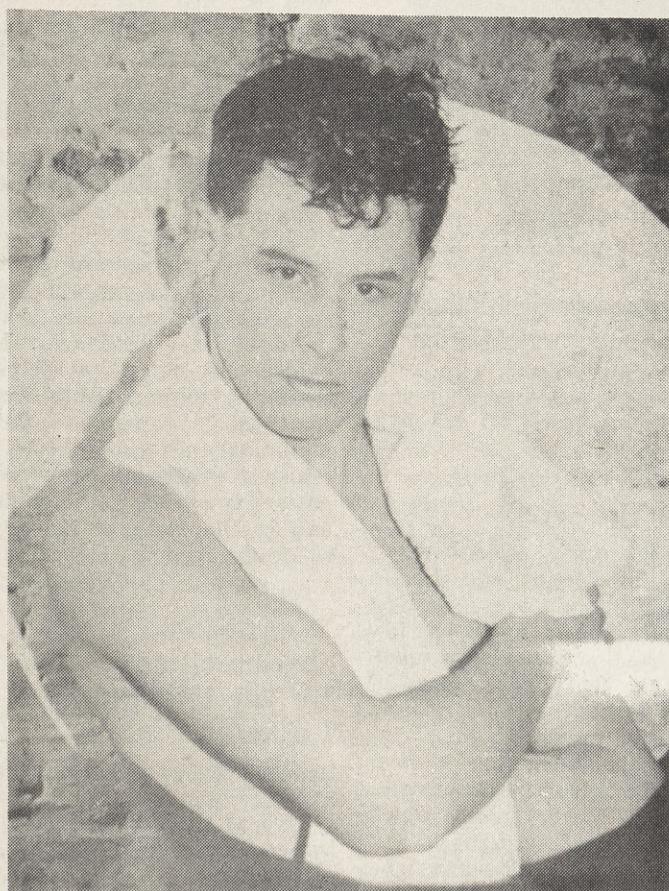
All For Your Love by The Good Girls, Motown Records

According to Motown's biography on The Good Girls, "This is the '90s,

Sleaze is out — sweet is in and everybody wants to be a good girl." Well, *All For Your Love* shows that The Good Girls are indeed the kind of girls you'd like your teenage daughter to be. The Good Girls music is crisp, clean, and wholesome with just a hint of the Supremes style and seems to be directed at the teenybopper age group. Personally, their music was a little too sweet for me, but I see definite potential in the teenage market-place.

What Does It All Mean by Greg Mack, Motown Records

What Does It All Mean, is the name of Greg Mack's new album and the question that keeps crossing my mind every time I listen to rap albums. I'm sorry, but I listen to music for a specific reason whether it be for a special mood or to dance. Rap just doesn't do anything for me. Granted, Mack says some important things in his songs, but using the old Dick Clark/American Bandstand rating system, I'll have to give this one a 2: hated the lyrics, and the beat was just too hard to dance to.

Motown Records: 70 Universal City, Plaza, Universal City, CA 91608**Ecstasy Records**: 2661 East 127th St., Cleveland, OH 44120**MCA Records**: 3rd floor, 70 Universal City Plaza, Universal City, CA 91608 ■

Vincent Capretta

The article on page 4 in the Dec. 1 issue about the Nutcracker Ballet included a photo of two dancers who were not in the production. MGW regrets the error.

San Francisco Film Premiere to Benefit Project Inform

by Lou Camera
OF MGW STAFF

Men in Love is premiering at the Castro Theatre, 429 Castro Street, San Francisco, on Thursday, January 11, as a gala benefit for Project Inform. Appearing at the premiere will be the film's producer, Scott Catamas; director Marc Huestis; and the film's co-stars, Doug Self and Joe Tolbe. There will be a reception at the Castro Theatre at 7 p.m., with the screening at 8:15 p.m. The premiere will be followed by a one-week run at the Roxie Cinema, 3117 16th Street, San Francisco, across from Theatre Rhinoceros.

The film is a powerful, sensual, life-affirming film dealing with gay sexuality, intimacy and love in the era of AIDS. It follows

Steven as he goes to Maui to scatter the ashes of his lover Victor who has just died from AIDS. In Maui, Steven tries to come to grips with Victor's "New Age" philosophy and to reconcile himself with his death. He also meets Peter, a native Hawaiian gardener, who lovingly guides Steven through a personal transformation.

Project Inform is a non-profit, community based organization working to alter the course of the AIDS epidemic. Co-director, Joe Brewer is a frequent speaker in Sacramento as part of the Sacramento AIDS Foundation's Healthy Living series. In fulfillment of their mission, Project Inform is helping save lives by

slowing the course of HIV infection, buying time until a real cure is found and in the process helping to change the face of healthcare in America.

Men in Love utilizes advanced video technology and is the first film shot in BETA-SP and digitally mastered for transfer to 35mm. Early reports indicate that the results truly capture the scenic beauty of Hawaii.

Tickets to the Castro premiere are \$25 for reception and screening; \$10 for the screening alone. Advance tickets can be purchased through Project Inform, 347 Dolores, Suite 301, San Francisco, CA 94110 (415) 558-8669, or at any San Francisco Headlines ticket outlet. ■

"Gypsie" Opening New Years Eve

by Lou Camera
OF MGW STAFF**New Years Eve...**

Still looking for that special event to kiss-off the 80s and herald in the 90s in high style? Why not attend the Davis Music Theatre Company's gala New Years Eve opening of *Gypsie*. For only \$50 per person you get dinner, champagne, dancing to a live band, party favors, and the show. *Gypsie* is the story of the ultimate stage mother who pushes her daughters to be stars. One grows up to be Gypsie Rose Lee and the other, June Havoc. The show is directed by Rand Martin, who also serves as the DMTC President and Executive Director of LIFE (Lobby for Individual Freedom and Equality).

If you can't make the New Years Eve spectacular, the show's regular opening is set for January 5 and will run through February 11. For tickets and further information call 756-DMTC. The theatre is located at 2121 2nd Street in Davis and is undergoing extensive renovations. The work is significantly completed and

shows great promise. In case you are looking for a worthy charity for that end-of-the-year contribution, give the theatre a call. They will appreciate the donation and you will be able to see your dollars put to good use.

Coming Up in January...

Don Cossacks Song and Dance Company of Rostov, USSR will perform at the Orpheum Theatre in San Francisco January 9-14. The troupe of 80 singers, dancers and musicians is well known for the astonishing athletic agility of its male ensemble and the beauty and grace of its female corps. The program is drawn from the legends and traditions of the Cossack peoples, who serve as a rich source of folklore. For ticket information call any Ticketron outlet.

Theatre Rhinoceros will open their third Mainstage production of the season on January 10 with

the revival of Mart Crowley's *Boys in the Band*. The show which originally opened in New York in 1968, (a year before the Stonewall Riots), takes an insightful look at pre-AIDS gay life. *Boys in the Band* will play through February 17. Theatre Rhinoceros is located at 2926 16th Street, San Francisco and can be reached by calling the box office at (415) 861-5079, Tuesday through Sunday.

Les Miserables has been extended through May 6 at the Curran Theatre in San Francisco. Though the written review of the show has not yet appeared in this paper, the show is definitely worth seeing. Give yourself a treat and make reservations by calling Ticketron. (Review is slated for the next issue).

See you next issue, and I wish you all the very best in the upcoming year. ■

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MGW NEWS CLIPS

by Bill Gingrich
OF MGW STAFF

East German Gays Visit The West

Berlin, Germany — Mann Meter, a gay information and drop-in center, has seen over 400 East Germans drop by in the last few days. The first day after the opening of the "wall" only five or 10 visited — then more and more on successive days. The East Germans have been able to hear about the center by listening to the West Berlin radio which broadcasts gay programs twice a week. Volunteers have been giving tours of the gay and lesbian community, bars and historical sites as well as offering places for the East Berliners to stay for an evening. ■

— Philadelphia Gay News

Lesbians Win Right To Adopt AIDS Child

San Francisco — Attorneys for the National Center for Lesbian Rights (NCLR) have won unprecedented approval for a lesbian couple to adopt a child with AIDS, and for the first-ever joint adoption by a gay male couple. NCLR won for its clients approval for their joint adoption of a 20-month-old baby with AIDS whom they have cared for since he was placed in their home as a foster child at the age of five weeks. They also won adoption for a brother and sister, ages 5 and 7, by a male gay couple. Both adoptions were court-ordered over the objections of the California Department of Social Services. ■

— Bay Area Reporter

Gay Man Wins Election — For Homecoming King

Santa Ana — A 25-year-old openly gay student was elected homecoming king at Rancho Santiago Community College. Link Schrader ran as a candidate sponsored by Gay and Lesbian Associated Students Support (GLASS), the school's gay organization which was founded last September. The new king, a former Marine, was selected by a 10-member judges' panel which evaluated the candidates on the basis of appearance, poise, and intelligence. ■

— The Advocate

Prison AIDS Resource Center

Sacramento — The Health Advocates Coalition, a nonprofit organization, has announced its creation of the first agency established specifically to address AIDS issues in prisons and jails — the Prison AIDS Resource Center (PARC). PARC has been established in order to: promote the development of community-based AIDS services; develop a database of resource and referral information for use by AIDS service providers, prisoner support organizations, public health agencies, legislators and other policy makers, and prisoners and their loved ones; and other activities related to the care and treatment of PWAs. ■

— Gay Community News, Boston

Former Midshipman's Lawsuit Dismissed

U.S. District Court — Joseph Steffan, a former midshipman who accused the U.S. Naval Academy of forcing him to resign because he is gay, filed a lawsuit for reinstatement in the Academy which would allow him to graduate. A U.S. district court judge dismissed the case after Steffan refused to answer government lawyers' pretrial questions about sexual activities he engaged in while attending the academy. His defense will appeal the ruling because his sexual conduct is irrelevant. The defense also noted that Steffan's Fifth Amendment rights, which protect against self-incrimination, allowed him to refuse to answer questions, since gay sex is a crime in the military and in the state of Maryland, where the academy is located. ■

— The Advocate

Two Lesbian Clerics Hired By The Evangelical Lutheran Church

San Francisco — A congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America hired two lesbian clerics even though church rules forbid ordination of gays. They were named assistant pastors at St. Francis Lutheran Church, which is located in San Francisco's heavily gay Castro district. ■

— The Advocate

Disclosure of HIV Positive Test Results To Third Parties

Iowa — A new rule approved by the Iowa state board of health will allow doctors to disclose their patients' HIV-antibody test results to the patients' sexual partners in some cases. The rule, which is slated to take effect in January, limits the permissible notification to cases in which a doctor believes the patient would not voluntarily inform unknowing sexual partners of the test results. ■

— The Advocate

Gay Prize Winner Not Allowed To Take Lover On Trip

Maryland — A gay account executive who won a week-long, company-paid vacation for two in Hawaii, settled a discrimination complaint against his company, which had refused to allow him to take his male lover on the trip. The company offered to pay for his wife or a female friend to accompany him but refused to pay for his lover. In settling the case, the employer agreed to change its policy and to allow the lover to accompany the employee on company paid vacations. ■

— The Advocate

Vatican Conference On AIDS Shocked

The Vatican — A man who said he was a priest from the United States shocked participants in the opening session of a Vatican conference on AIDS when he unfolded a banner that read "The Vatican Has AIDS" in front of them. Gendarmes grabbed the man and removed him. The man identified himself as a Roman Catholic priest, but he carried no identification and did not say where in the United States he was from. ■

— The Advocate

Sexual Orientation Discrimination Ruled Unconstitutional

Toronto, Canada — A Canadian superior court ruled that discrimination against gay men and lesbians is unconstitutional. A gay male inmate in a federal prison was denied permission to receive conjugal visits from his

lover by prison officials. Since federal prison policy permits heterosexual inmates to have conjugal visits, the inmate charged discrimination and took the case to court. The counsel for the federal prison system contended that the policy was not discriminatory because the inmate would be allowed conjugal visits by a woman. The judge noted that three provinces and the Yukon Territory have human rights legislation that prohibits sexual orientation discrimination. In his groundbreaking ruling, the judge said that gay people have been "victimized and stigmatized throughout history because of prejudice — mostly based on fear or ignorance, as most prejudices are." ■

— Community News, Boston

FBI Spied On Gay Groups

San Francisco — According to an article by Randy Shilts, the FBI spied on gay groups from 1953 until 1977 — tapping phones, photographing marches and sending undercover agents to gay meetings. He based his report on documents obtained under the Freedom of Information Act. U.S. Rep. Don Edwards (D-CA), a former FBI agent, has promised a Congressional investigation into the "worthless, biased surveillance." He said he believes the FBI has stopped spying on gays. ■

— Outlines, Chicago

Students Stop Racist Slurs

Marsing, Idaho — Students at Marsing High School took action recently to stop racist slurs yelled by some adult fans at football games. A strongly-worded statement was passed out to fans and a shorter statement was read over the public address system prior to the game blasting "bigots, or big idiots." Since the beginning of the season, certain adult fans have yelled the slurs at the Hispanic members of the team. The students, fed up with the bigotry, came up with the plan of action. It apparently worked, as no bigoted statements were reported at the game. ■

— The Paper, Boise, Idaho

Actress Charges For Autographs — Donates To AIDS

Hollywood — Actress Sigourney Weaver (*Aliens, Gorillas in the Mist*) has begun charging \$1 for each autograph she signs and then giving the money to AIDS research. She says, "Nobody refuses. Some say, 'Here's \$20.' It changes the whole experience of giving autographs. It stops being about being a celebrity and becomes two people sharing." ■

— The Paper, Boise, Idaho

Prisoner Kept From Abortion

New Port Richey, Florida — A county judge in Florida has refused to let a woman delay the start of her two-month sentence for one week to earn enough money to have an abortion. She was sentenced for driving while intoxicated. The woman was beginning her third month of pregnancy. The judge denied her request, saying, "Do you want a continuance so you can murder your baby?" ■

— off our backs, Washington, D.C.

A First For Italian Gay Couples in Public Housing

Bologna, Italy — Bologna has become the first Italian city to put gay couples in public housing, following a redefining of "family" by Parliament. Now, "a group of cohabitating persons tied by bonds of affection" can live in city-owned flats as easily as married heterosexuals. Said Mayor Renzo Imbeni, "We see new

forms of shared living every day. Administrators must adjust to that situation. These changes were overdue." ■

— Gay Times, San Diego

Don Johnson's Sister Says He's Bi

Paris, France — According to "Gay Infos," Miami Vice star Don Johnson's sister appeared on a Paris TV talk show this summer and displayed 15-year old nude pictures of her brother posing for a gay magazine. "He likes women," she reportedly said, "but I'm sure he's bi." ■

— San Diego Gay Times

"All Trumped Up"

New York — Act/Up rallied over 100 demonstrators for a Halloween Day protest at glitzy Trump Towers over the million-dollar tax breaks real estate magnates receive, even as New York City fails to provide adequate shelter and housing to the estimated 10,000 homeless people with AIDS. ■

— Gay Community News, Boston

Chicago Mayor Cuts Off Gays

Chicago — Members of Chicago's four-year-old Mayor's Committee on Gay and Lesbian Issues and key activists from local gay rights organizations say the administration of newly-elected Mayor Richard Daley has cut off gays and lesbians from participation in city government. They and other minorities say the input to the city's government encouraged and nurtured under reform Mayor Harold Washington and former Mayor Eugene Sawyer. The city's leading activists now say those days appear over and they fear Daley will ultimately disband the independent-minded committee in order to have more control over who can speak from inside city government. ■

— Philadelphia Gay News

City Parks Department Sponsors Youth Dance

Seattle — The Seattle Parks Department's dance for gay, lesbian and bisexual youth and their friends went off without a hitch, despite letters and telephone calls of protest from local conservatives and fundamental Christians. Virginia Swanson, director of recreational programs for the department, said that about 85 young people attended the dance which was held in a community center. Protestors didn't like it because "it is a misuse of tax dollars, and promotes the lifestyle that is not right on religious grounds." ■

— Seattle Gay News

Big Brothers Rescinds Ban On Gays

Washington, D.C. — Washington D.C. Big Brothers' board of directors voted unanimously to rescind its long-held ban against allowing gay men to serve as volunteers. The vote marked the end of a 15-year effort by local gay groups to pressure Big Brothers into changing the policy. A board member said, "We decided there was no longer a factual, justifiable basis for our policy." ■

— The Washington Blade

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Is Pet Insurance Any Good And Who Offers It?

by Jim Czalowski, D.V.M.
OF MGW STAFF

With rising costs in all medical fields, veterinary fees too are escalating. For those seeking a break from ever-increasing costs in treatment, a veterinary health insurance plan may be a wise investment. For those folks investing a large chunk of cash for that adorable purebred pup, a health plan can insure that your investment is not lost.

Here in California is based one of the most successful insurers of animal health — Veterinary Pet Insurance of Santa Ana. For a moderate annual fee you can insure your pet against what can often be expensive veterinary bills. For instance, the usual charge for the repair of a broken leg averages between three and five hundred dollars, but with a health plan you pay nothing (or a small deductible) fee depending on the type of plan chosen). For more detailed information your own veterinarian should be able to supply you with brochures outlining the plans available or call 1-800-VPI-PETS for more information.

I have heard a lot about Lyme disease and that people can contact it from their pets. What exactly is this disease and how can I tell if my dog has it.

Lyme disease is caused by a bacterium (Borrelia Burgdorferi) that is actually carried by ticks in

this area. In people this bacterium causes fatigue, headaches, a very characteristic rash, and eventually a severe arthritis. Generally only the arthritis is noted in animals. Of our pets, the dog is the most commonly infected (though cats, horses, and cows do too). The disease is transmitted to us via the tick that is passed from animal to us.

Northern California has one of the highest incident rates. So please be wary when in an area populated by ticks. Apply repellent to yourself and a good flea and tick dip to your pet. Check your pet thoroughly after in the woods or open fields. This disease luckily if caught early can be treated with antibiotics which usually will quickly correct the symptoms. ■

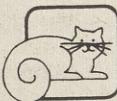
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Delta Lambda Phi Denied Fraternity Membership

by Victoria Marcott
OF MGW STAFF

On November 15, 1989, the Inter-Fraternity Council at Sacramento State College voted on the entrance of Delta Lambda Phi to the council. The IFC consists of 18 representatives from member fraternities. Although Delta Lambda Phi did not receive approval, Bill Collins, president of the fraternity, emphasizes that six members of the council did give approval. He was also invited to try again next semester.

There are 14 chapters of Delta Lambda Phi throughout California. Earlier this year, the Inter-Fraternity Council at UCLA approved entrance of their local chapter.

The members of the fraternity are disappointed over the decision, not despondent. Bill Collins promises that Delta Lambda Phi will survive. If this determination and drive are the typical characteristics of a member of Delta Lambda Phi, Sacramento may as well prepare itself for its first gay fraternity.

The council gave no reason for the decision. They did say that the longevity of the fraternity and further community involvement would have a positive effect on future consideration. Delta Lambda Phi is currently involved

with Operation Santa Claus. On December 1 they sponsored Worlds AID Day at the college. In the planning stages is Gay Awareness Week, scheduled sometime in February.

On November 20, the River City Democratic Club honored the fraternity with an awards banquet. The award is recognition of their community involvement, determination, and willingness to set a precedence in Sacramento's gay community. ■

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MGW ORGANIZATIONS

Gay Center

- LAMBDA COMMUNITY CENTER—1931 L St. At 20th Daily: 10 am—6 pm Mon/Tues: 10 am—9 pm 442-0185. Info Line 447-5755.

Media

- MGW NEWSPAPER—1725 L St., 95814. 441-NEWS (9, 5-weeks).
- BEING GAY TODAY—Lesbian/Gay video magazine, cable channel 47, M 10-11pm, reshown TU 5-6pm & W 12-1pm. 481-7317.
- PSSN NEWSLETTER—Box 189306, 95818. Arturo Jackson, 447-5925.
- VISIONZ—Cable 47. Weekly Gay & Lesbian TV Magazine, W 9 pm, TH 4 pm, F 11 am, producers: Gary Schorzman, Ka'imi Rosa, Larry Porter, 2128 El Camino, Box 113, 95821, 641-0704.

Miscellaneous

- AID TO AIDS—Box 255773, Sac. 95865, Joe Garrett, 929-3417.
- AIDS FOUNDATION—1900 K St., Suite 201. AIDS Info., referrals, education, counseling. 448-AIDS.
- ADULT CHILDREN OF ALCOHOLICS (ACA)—Sat. 12:30-2pm. No smoking 2741 34th (MCC Church) 381-2175.
- ACROPOLIS Computer Service for Men—4620 Hazel Ave. F.O. 95628, 300/1200/2400, B/N/1, Will, Robert, 967-5817.
- ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS—McKinley Park Group, Room A. Tues 8pm. 601 Alhambra Blvd. 454-1100.
- Lambda Group, St. Joseph's Hall, S. Church & Chapel St., Grass Valley, Tues, 7pm. Non-smoking.
- North Hall Group: MCC, 2741-34th St. Mon. 8pm; Tue. 6pm - Women; Wed. 6pm and 8pm - no smoking; Thu. 8pm; Fri. 8pm and 10pm; Sat. 8pm; Sun. 6pm - Men's and 8pm.
- BARBARY COAST BOATING CLUB—Sac Delta, SF Bay. 847 Oak St., San Francisco, CA 94117, (415) 255-1049 or (916) 972-9317.
- BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP—For parents and adult siblings of persons who have died of ARC or AIDS. Thursdays 7pm, Lutheran Church of Our Redeemer, 4641 Marconi Avenue, Fireside Room, 483-5691 or 456-9642.
- CAPITAL CITY SQUARE DANCE members: Tues., 6:30-8pm. William 12th and V St. Plus 8:30-10pm, 2271.
- SACRAMENTO HOTLINE
- SBIAN UNIVERSITY OF CALIF. S—John Bennett, 457-3634.
- GAY FATHERS OF SAC—2nd Sun. potluck/discussion, 456-3237.
- G.G.N.I.E.—Box 160636, 95816. 1st Tue., 7:30pm. Last Tues., Bd. Mtg. 447-0345, 927-9540.
- LANDLORD/TENANT PROBLEMS—Human Rights/Fair Housing Commission's Landlord-tenant line, 444-0178, 2131 Capitol Ave, Ste. 206.
- LAMBDA COMMUNITY FUND—Box 163654, 95816. Jerry 381-3115, 442-0185.
- NATIONAL GAY & LESBIAN CRISISLINE—1-800-SOS-GAYS or 1-800-767-4297.
- N.O.W.—Third Wed. each month, 7-9pm, Clunie Center, 601 Alhambra Blvd. Free childcare. 443-3470.
- NUDE EXCHANGE (NTE), Box 1624, No. Hinds, 95660.
- OUR RIVER CITY FAMILY, Sonny, John, 925-4667.
- OUTDOOR ADVENTURES—of Sac. Monthly potluck/meeting. 1st Wed. Stan 441-3285.
- PARENTS & FRIENDS OF LESBIANS & GAYS—555 Vallombrosa, #73, Chico. 3rd Sun., 1pm. 891-5718.
- PARENTS & FRIENDS OF LESBIANS & GAYS—Fremont Presbyterian Church, 5770 Carlson H St., 3rd Tues. 7:30pm. Merrill Follansbee, 444-9510 or Box 660955, Sac. 95866.
- PARTHENON—Computer service for men, 443-8851. 927-2702.
- PEOPLE TOGETHER—spiritual, social support group for HIV positive, ARC/AIDS, catastrophic illness, friends, lovers, etc., meets every Tues. 7pm. Met. MCC. Betty 454-4762.
- PET LOSS—752-4200
- PILLARS—Social group, alternating Friday 6:30pm. 455-1771.
- PRIME 8's—Advanced Square Dancing Club. Mon 7-9pm. Joseph's Town and Country Inn.
- RIVER CITY BOWLERS—6pm Southbowl, Sun., Paul Schierenberg — 927-5431
- SAC ATHLETIC GAMES ASSOC.—(SAGA III Team Sacramento) Board meeting quarterly, 1st Thurs. 7pm, 443-6440. COORDINATORS: Women's Sports 443-6432 Men's Sports 451-5996 Basketball (w) 455-4473 Basketball (m) 455-4991 Billiards (w) 753-5488 Billiards (m) 372-6404 Bowling (w) 457-9316 Bowling (m) 485-0121 or 635-1535 Canoeing (m/w) 381-3380 Cycling (m/w) 381-3380 Golf (m/w) 443-6440 or 442-8879 Marathon 927-9157 Physique 427-2688 or 443-6440 Powerlifting (m/w) 624-0166 Racquetball (m/w) 457-4943 Soccer 446-6870 Women's Soccer 444-5868 Softball (w) 929-2873 Softball (m) 451-5996 Swimming (w) 454-3142 Swimming (m) 442-4340 Tennis (m/w) 456-6013/386-2127 Track & Field (m/w) 455-0986 Triathlon (m/w) 311-3380 Volleyball (w) 487-4155 Volleyball (m) 442-4641 Wrestling (m) 451-5152
- QUAD—Bisexual Family-Oriented Outdoor Recreation & Social Group. Box 660664, 95866. 927-0418 Cliff, Renee.
- SPAKERS BUREAU—Paulette Jacobson 441-5514.
- SAC GAY & LESBIAN COUPLES—Social Group meets monthly. Jerome, Eliseo, 391-0109.
- SAC MEN'S CHORUS—Box 188726, 95818, 485-7960.
- SAC AREA EDUCATORS—monthly potluck. Tom Harp 456-6673, Frank Lawler, 485-7960.
- SAN JOAQUIN AIDS FOUNDATION—4410 North Pershing Ave, Suite C-5, Stockton, 95207, (209) 476-8533.
- VALLEY KNIGHTS MOTORCYCLE CLUB, INC.—Box 8163, 95818, 455-6540.
- YOLO COUNTY GAYS—1-661-6210.
- YOLO HOSPICE OUTREACH OFFICE—110 6th St., Broderick, 95605, Judy Pressmar, 758-5566, 372-5863, 1-666-3774.

Political/Legal

- ASSEMBLYMAN LLOYD CONNELLY—2705 'K' St., Ste. 6, 95816. Alison Anderson is liaison, 443-1183.
- ASSEMBLYMAN PHIL ISENBERG—1215 15th St., Ste. 102, 95814. Connie Damant is liaison, 324-4677.
- CAL. CAPITOL POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE—(CAPPAC) (Demo./Rep.) 1008 10th St., 255, 95814, 736-2722.
- CONCERNED REPUBLICANS—Sacramento to Log Cabin, John Madrid 368-0341.
- HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION—2131 Capitol Ave., Suite 206, 95816. 4th Wed., 6:30pm, City Hall 444-6903.
- LOBBY FOR INDIVIDUAL FREEDOM & EQUALITY—(LIFE) Rand Martin, 926 J St. #1020, 95814.
- RIVER CITY DEMOCRATIC CLUB—Box 161958, 95816. 3rd Mon., Lambda Community Center, 1931 L St. Ken Topper, 424-5254 (msg).

Youth

- CALIFORNIA RUNAWAY HOTLINE—1-800-843-5200.
- YOUTH CRISIS LINE—Mon-Fri, 3-9pm EST 1-800-221-7044. NGTF, 80 5th Ave., NY 1001.
- YOUTH GROUP—Fri 5-6:30pm for young people. Lambda Center, 1931 L St., 442-0185.

Religion

- AFFIRMATION—United Methodists for Lesbian and Gay Concerns. Ellie, Jeanne, 489-2340.
- CONGREGATION SHA'AR ZAHAV—220 Danvers St., San Francisco, 94114. (415) 861-6932.
- DIGNITY—Box 161765, 95816. (Catholic) Mass & meeting, 2nd Sun., 3pm, St. Francis Chapel, 26th & 'K', 441-0427 (msg).
- METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH—2741-34th St., Box 20125, 95820. Worship services, Sun., 10am and 6pm. 454-4762, Rev. Elder Freda Smith.
- METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH OF STOCKTON—Meets at 2737 Pacific Ave. (Unitarian Church), at 6pm Sun. Box 8323, Stockton, 95208. (209) 465-3944.
- LUTHERANS CONCERNED/SA—4th Sun. Kevin S. Braaten-Moen, 739-0607.
- S.D.A.—Box 3840, Los Angeles, 90078. (213) 876-2076.
- ZEN BUDDHIST GROUP—Mon. 7pm, 925-0704. Brian.

Student

These student groups usually get together when classes are in session.

- GAYS & LESBIANS AT ARC—Thurs 11am Dr. Johns, 484-8340.
- CHICO STATE GAY/LESBIAN UNION—CSU Chico, 95926.
- GAYS & LESBIAN ALLIANCE OF SAC STATE—(G.L.A.S.) CSUS, 6000 J St., Box 33, 95819. Thu. 8:30pm, Gwyn 485-4531.
- BISEXUALS, GAYS & LESBIANS AT DAVIS—433 Russell Blvd., Davis, 95616. 1st, 3rd Weds. 7-8pm, rap group 8:15. Events tape 753-2090.

Social

- IF THE SHOE FITS—Box 2030, Cameron Park, 95682, El Dorado Lesbian/Gay Network. Potluck 3rd Sat., 6263494.

Women

- BOUND & DETERMINED—Box 5014, 95817. Woman-to-woman S/M support group.
- CAMPING WOMEN—Sac Chapter, Gail 689-9326. Camille 662-0460, Box 13261, 95813
- CSUS WOMEN'S CENTER—6000 J St., 95819. 278-7388.
- DAVIS WOMEN'S READING CIRCLE—Last Thurs., Christine (916) 758-2875.
- EL DORADO WOMEN'S CENTER—3133 Gilmore Street, Placerville, 95667. 626-1450 or 626-1131.
- FOOTHILLS ALTERNATIVE WOMEN'S NEWSLETTER—(FAWN) Nevada, Placer, & El Dorado Co. (916) 272-6544 or (916) 265-9312.
- FREE WOMEN'S SUPPORT GROUP—every Wed. 7:30pm, Chemical Dependency Center, 1507 21st Street, Ste. 100, Facilitator Claudia Boyd, 448-2951.
- LEATHER AND LACE—Motorcycle Club. Box 163044, 95816, 452-7467.
- LESBIAN RIGHTS PROJECT—1370 Mission St., SF 94103. Public interest law firm.
- LESBIAN CRISIS LINE—M-F 3-9 p.m. EST, 1-800-221-7044.
- NAT'L. ORGANIZATION FOR WOMEN—Box 1404, 95807.
- NOW LESBIAN RIGHTS TASK FORCE—331-5036, Kay, Lorraine.
- SAC PULSE—Women's Card Group, Gloria 368-1051.
- SAC AREA CAREER WOMEN'S NETWORK—Dinner Meetings 3rd Fri. 6:30-9:30, 486-8985.
- SAC TRADESWOMEN—Supportive network of women in non-traditional work. Meets 2nd Fri., 456-5555.
- SAC WOMEN'S CENTER—2306 J St., #200, 441-4207.
- SAC WOMEN'S CHORUS—Mon. 6-8pm, Martie, 1-756-5658, 1-753-6022.
- SOLANO COUNTY GAY INFO LINE—Women Preferring Women. Vacaville 707-448-1010, 707/449-0550 Dathy, Box 9, Vacaville 95686.
- SNOW WHITE CHAMPAGNE BALL—December party for women. To be on mailing list write Linda Birner, 1725 L Street, 95814.
- SPOKES WOMYN CYCLING CLUB—Box 162784, 95816 447-6270/441-0967.
- WOMEN'S RAP GROUP AND SOCIAL—Mon., 7-9pm Lambda Center, 1931 L Street, Laura, 682-5481 (msg).
- WOMEN'S HEALTH RESOURCE—of Sutter Community Hospital, 733-3000.
- WOMEN'S STRESS ALTERNATIVES—448-2951.
- YWCA—1122-17th St., 95814, 442-4741

HIV Resources

by Sonya Cox
OF MGW STAFF

- HIV Positive Support Group, first and third Wednesday, 8 pm, CARES Clinic, 448-2437.
- Alternative Treatments Workshop, second Saturday, 2 pm, Sutter General, 486-2566.
- HIV/ARC/AIDS Support, second and fourth Saturday, 1 pm, Sutter General, 924-1620.
- Emotional and practical support, education on safe sex (Buddy Connection workshops, October 23, and November 18), and getting well for those who are HIV-free, HIV-positive, have ARC or AIDS: call Sacramento AIDS Foundation, Monday through Friday, 9 am to 5 pm, 448-2437.
- AIDS Response Programs (STOP AIDS, Being Alive, other support and education get-togethers), call Lambda Community Center at 442-0185.
- Support For Partners, Family or Friends, Mondays 6 pm to 8 pm, Sharon Hartley and Charla Wistos, 454-1655.
- Anonymous Testing for HIV, Capitol Health Center, Wednesday and Thursday, 8 am to 5 pm, call for appointment, 366-2922.
- Confidential Testing and Drug Treatment, Aquarian Effort, call for appointment, 446-6467.
- Positive Support Newsletter, bi-monthly, call 447-5925.
- Project Inform hotline (answers to all your questions!), 1-800-334-7422.
- MCC People Together, Tuesdays 7:30 to 8:30 pm, Metropolitan Community Church, call 454-4762.
- HIV Positive Latinos Support Group, every other Monday, 6 pm, call Robert Garcia at 448-2437.

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For Men: Body Beautiful



The body-building magazines of the '50s and '60s nourished a lot of pre-Stonewall fantasies and laid the groundwork for more explicit gay skin mags. In this excerpt from *The Gay Fireside Companion*, Leigh Rutledge gives a glimpse of the past.

ADONIS, subtitled "The Art Magazine of the Male Physique." Early physique magazine "dedicated to man's desire to improve his face and figure." *Adonis* featured handsome, muscular young models in 1951.

Like other "physical culture" magazines from the period, its fleshy and provocative photos of near-naked men — often taken by such renowned male photographers as Bob Mizer of the Athletic Model Guild or Don Whitman of the Western Photographic Guild — were published under the then-necessary pretense of championing physical fitness and good health, while in actuality providing erotica for gay men. Models were often presented under such coy captions as "Ripening grain, ripening youth

— the strength of America" or "Here is the finest flower of masculine perfection. Jim is in the Navy, so you can be sure the country is in good hands!" *Adonis* also published a companion magazine, *Body Beautiful: Studies in Masculine Art*.

In 1958, *Adonis* and *Body Beautiful* were combined to create a single magazine, *The Young Physique*. By the mid-1960s, *Young Physique* — although still confined to photographs of male models in posing straps — was becoming more and more openly gay. Like most early physique magazines, *Adonis*, *Body Beautiful*, and *The Young Physique* were openly sold in many drugstores.

TOMORROW'S MAN, popular physique magazine of the 1950s and 1960s, subtitled "The International Magazine of Bodybuilding." It began publishing in 1952.

Tomorrow's Man — which, like other physique magazines, stressed muscular development, health, and self-discipline — featured photos of professional bodybuilders, readers "training at home," and international male models, as well as the usual photos by some of the best physique photographers of the period, including "Bruce of Los Angeles" (later "Kensington Studios") and Don Whitman of Western Photography Guild in Denver.

Amid the photos of beautiful 18-year-olds shirtless in tight jeans or posing straps — typically subtitled "Tony has made a good start on the road to healthy shape and strength" or "Tom has reaped the rich rewards of training with barbells" — were articles on masturbation, circumcision, and other sexual matters, as well as questions from readers.

because, unlike most other physique magazines of the day, it often showed some male pubic hair in its photos.

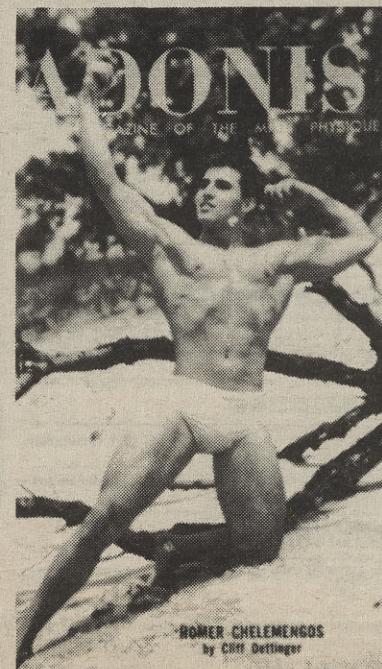
In 1983, gay porn star Richard Locke spoke for many of his generation when he said that *Tomorrow's Man* was one of his favorite magazines to masturbate to when he was growing up. *VIM*, popular physique magazine for the 1950s, first published in 1954. Subtitled "The Magazine for Vigorous Living," *VIM* featured physical culture photography by the Athletic Mod I Guild, Spectrum Films, the Western Photography Guild, and other notable male photographers of the time. Articles included such topics as "In Defense of Nudism," "Are Bodybuilders Oversexed?" and "How to Develop a Low He-Man Voice." One memorable article — on the do's and don'ts of bathing — began, "If you are building a handsome body remember that the classic Greeks — glorifiers of the body beautiful — invented the bath as we know it, and ever since then bathing has been a true mark of culture. A lot of suds have dribbled down the drain since ancient Rome, where public pools let 3,000 bathers dunk together."

Other features debated the propriety of showing male models in G-strings — some readers found it offensive and immoral, others wanted complete nudity — or criticized other physique magazines for their lack of integrity and the introduction of "undesirable elements" (i.e. homosexual overtones) in their editorial content.

MANual, popular physique magazine, started in 1959. *MANual* was especially popular

because, unlike most other physique magazines of the day, it often showed some male pubic hair in its photos.

CHAMP, 1960s physique magazine, whose stated purpose was "to awaken the youth of America to the importance and need of developing a sound body." The magazine was started by male photographer Bob Anthony, and began publishing in 1960. *Champ* not only featured the usual pictures of handsome young men, but also showcased the original drawings of several early gay artists. These drawings often had absolutely no relevance to bodybuilding or physical fitness, but were among some of the first contemporary gay erotic art to be so widely published.



BOB CHELEMENOS
by Cliff Dettinger

GO GUYS, early gay magazine, first published in the spring of 1963. In terms of content, *GO GUYS* was somewhere between the more traditional, less revealing physique magazines of the '50s and the slick, totally explicit gay magazines of today. Models were featured in multi-page layouts almost identical to those modern gay "slicks," except that full genital shots were still forbidden. Other photographic layouts, call "Fotoart," highlighted two or three models in mildly erotic, comic strip-like stories — wrestling bouts, locker room antics, vacations to the beach — usually full of double entendres: "With such an eventful trip behind them, Sven and David thought the rest of their vacation would be anti-climactic. But, as it turned out, they both found more than they had bargained for, and returned to the campus engaged to be married." There were also reasonably explicit gay cartoons, as well as fashion layouts, travel tips, and a smattering of gay history, such as features on famous artists — Michelangelo, Goya, et al. — who were preoccupied by the male nude.

MUSCLES a GO-GO, physique magazine, more explicitly gay than most, first published in February 1966. *Muscles a Go-Go* featured model layouts under such titles as "He's Butch!" and "Oh Mary, They're Hairy!" The Athletic Model Guild, Bruce of Kensington Road, and other major physique photographers were all regular contributors.

Excerpted from *The Gay Fireside Companion* by Leigh Rutledge (Alyson Publications: Boston, MA). ■

Peter Nero Featured in Pops Concert

by Karl Greene
OF MGW STAFF

The Pops concert, coming up on January 12 and 13, promises to be a great pleasure for those who love keyboard stylists. Peter Nero will be here! Yes, Peter Nero, the double Grammy award winner who has such a reputation as a composer, conductor and arranger as well as a virtuoso pianist.

The next classical concert, scheduled for January 5, 6 and 7, will be another satisfying evening for those who like the piano. Deno Gianopoulos, pianist, will play Ravel's Piano Concerto which is loaded with syncopation, color and style. In plain

language, it's jazzy! Ravel had some contact with the American composer George Gershwin, so the piano concerto contains some obvious Gershwin sounds.

The same concert will feature a piece of music which Carter Nice, the orchestra's conductor, calls an "event!" It's a symphony by a little-known Russian (pre-Soviet) composer named Taneyev who was a student of Tchaikovsky and a teacher of Rachmaninoff. According to Nice, 'this symphony is full of vitality, joy and exuberance. The writing for strings and brass is captivating. It's a great piece!"

Clearly, there's some compelling music coming up soon at the Sacramento Symphony concerts. Call 649-0200 for tickets. ■

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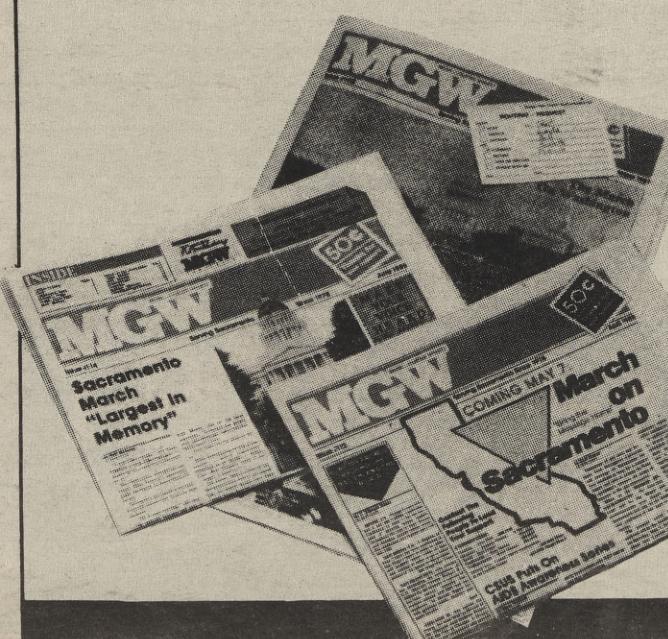
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